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WIDENER



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Records of the

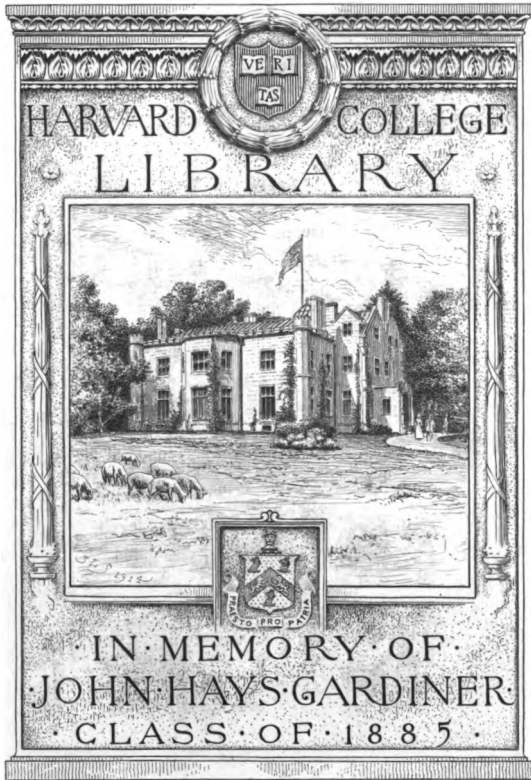
“Buchan Rifles”



3rd. Vol. Batt.

GORDON Highlanders

51.2.1.117



RECORDS
OF
3RD VOLUNTEER BATTALION
(THE BUCHAN)
GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

0

RECORDS

OF THE

3RD

(THE BUCHAN)

VOLUNTEER BATTALION

GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

COMPILED BY

CAPTAIN AND HON. MAJOR JAMES FERGUSON.

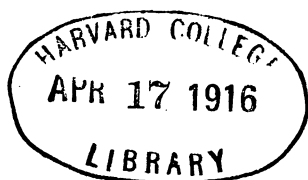
“ O Logie o’ Buchan. O Logie the Laird !
Ye have taen awa’ Jamie wha delved in the yaird,
Wha played on the pipes an’ the viol sae sma’,
Ye have taen awa’ Jamie—the flow’r o’ them a’.”
(Buchan Song.)

PETERHEAD :

PRINTED BY DAVID SCOTT, ST ANDREW STREET.

1894.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following records have been compiled at the request of Colonel Dingwall Fordyce and other Officers of the Battalion.

They have been taken mainly from the Regimental Order Books and the Minute Books of the old independent Companies, supplemented by information collected by the Sergeant-Instructors, and details supplied by the Captains of Companies.

The acknowledgements of all connected with the Buchan Battalion are due to Capt. P. Davidson of the 5th V.B. (Deeside Highland) Gordon Highlanders, who prepared the roll of officers in the Appendix from the official War Office lists.

The compiler of the narrative has also to express his thanks to his brother officers for the information they have supplied, and his sense of the trouble taken by the Sergeant-Instructors to obtain the details which they were desired to furnish.

KINMUNDY,
OLD DEER, *May*, 1894.

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**THE 3rd (THE BUCHAN)
VOLUNTEER BATTALION GORDON
HIGHLANDERS.**

"At no period," says a writer of last century, "have the people of Buchan been much addicted to a military life." There is, however, authority for the conviction that this negative attitude towards the profession of arms was not due to lack of military qualities, for it was also long ago observed that "the very common herdsmen make good soldiers." The notices of military bodies connected with Buchan prior to the Volunteer movement of Queen Victoria's reign are few and scanty.

The vassals and followers of the Earl of Buchan must have suffered severely in the disastrous battles near Inverurie and at Aikey Brae, in which King Robert the Bruce broke the power of the house of Comyn. Buchan warriors probably followed the Earl Marischal, the Earl of Erroll, and other leaders, to the great battles with the English, and indeed it is recorded of one that "he remanit with my lord my fader to the deid" upon the fatal field of Flodden. But as a general rule the character and situation of the district secured

for it a wonderfully peaceful history in the troubled times which bulk so largely in Scottish Annals. In the seventeenth century it was vastly more fortunate than other parts of Aberdeenshire in escaping the ravages of civil war. The Earl Marischal's, the Earl of Erroll's, and the Lord Pitsligo's "Buchan men" appear among the Covenanting bodies, who were mustered in Aberdeen, and were engaged in the "Trot of Turriff" and more serious battles. "Two troops of horse out of Cruden" are mentioned as moving into Aberdeen, but it is uncertain whether these were local bodies or cavalry from the south temporarily quartered in the district. A regiment of horse belonging to the Earl Marischal suffered severely in the battle at Preston, in Lancashire, in which Cromwell defeated the Duke of Hamilton's enterprise, known as the Engagement, and the number of old soldiers scattered throughout the country parishes, to which their records allude, indicates that Buchan had contributed its own share to the armies of the day.

It sent more than its own share to the little force of cavalry, which, led by Lord Pitsligo, formed part of the army of Prince Charles Edward in 1745. From old letters in the possession of Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy it appears that in 1780 a recruiting party of the Cameronians (of which regiment one of the Cumines of Auchry was then a captain) visited the Buchan markets under a "beating-order," but apparently with little success. "What sort of people," wrote their Captain, "are they in your part of the world that she cannot even persuade one of them to become a soldier?" referring to the "eloquence" of a young lady whose assistance he had secured. "I should, however," he wrote some months later, "be very unreasonable if I complained of my success. I have now listed a dozen gentlemen volunteers." In

the following year he wrote again, "My party have orders to take up their quarters at Old Deer for a time. . . . Perhaps the presence of my redcoats may now infuse some spirit in your country lads, and you may be able to persuade some of them to serve His Majesty in the Cameronian Regiment." In 1804 a second battalion of the 72nd (originally and now again the "Seaforth") Highlanders, formed of men raised in Aberdeenshire, was embodied at Peterhead, which was disbanded in 1816. When the Gordon Highlanders were raised in 1794, though three-fourths of the men were from the Duke of Gordon's Highland estates, the remaining fourth were from the Lowland districts of Aberdeenshire and adjacent counties.

The Buchan district performed its part in the scheme of national defence evolved by Mr Pitt and his successors in the days of the Great War. Dr Skene Keith, in his *Agriculture of Aberdeenshire*, published in 1811, says:—

"The Aberdeenshire regiment of militia consists of 640 men: and there are five regiments of local militia. The former is moved over all parts of the kingdom: the latter are stationary in the county and are trained only a few weeks annually in the different towns of the county, viz., two at Aberdeen, one at Ellon, one at Peterhead, and one at Fraserburgh."

Probably Dr Skene Keith refers in the case of Peterhead and Fraserburgh to the Volunteers that then existed. It is interesting to record the names of those who served in these early predecessors of the Buchan battalion. In the War Office "Lists of the Officers of the Fencible Cavalry and Infantry, Militia, corps and troops of Gentlemen and Yeomanry; and of the corps and companies of Volunteer Infantry" published in 1797 and 1801, the Fraserburgh and Peterhead companies appear as follows:—

PETERHEAD—1797.

Major Comm.	...	John Ramsay.
Captain	...	{ William Ferguson, 8th April, 1795.
		{ John Hutchison,
		{ Alex. Ellis, 21st Dec., 1796.
Captain Lieut. and		{ Donald M'Intosh.
Captain		{ James Hutchison, 8th April, 1795.
		{ James Arbuthnot,
		{ Thomas Arbuthnot, 21st Dec., 1796.
Lieutenant	...	{ Thomas Robertson,
		{ Gilbert Alexander,
		{ John Forbes,
Adjutant	...	James Forbes, 21st Dec., 1796.
Quarter-Master	...	Gilbert Alexander, 21st Dec., 1796.
Agent	...	Mr Lawrie, John Street, Adelphi.

In the list of 1801 the date of Major Ramsay's commission is given as 3rd May, 1797. Captain Macintosh is no longer designated as Captain-Lieutenant, and the date of his commission is also given as 3rd May, 1797. Thomas Arbuthnot and John Forbes have disappeared, and the list of Lieutenants contains the following additional names. James Forbes (3rd May, 1797), William Forbes (3rd May, 1797), Alex. Robertson (27th Sept., 1798), and George Forbes (9th May, 1800). James Forbes (21st Dec., 1796), continued to be Adjutant, but Gilbert Alexander had been succeeded as Quarter-Master by James Robertson (3rd May, 1797).

FRASERBURGH—1797.

Capt. Comm.	...	William Troop, 16th Feb., 1797.
1st Lieutenant	...	Alexander Patton, "
2nd Lieutenant	{	George Gordon, "
	{	William Kelman, "
Agent	...	Mr Carstairs, Abchurch Lane.

In 1801 Captain Troop had been succeeded as Captain-Commandant by Captain William Fraser, whose commission was dated 2nd October, 1800, but otherwise there was no change.

Tradition records that upon one occasion the Peterhead Volunteers manned the battery and beat off a French privateer which was hovering near the

harbour, the guns being laid by Captain William Ferguson, who was an old naval officer. The following passage in a private letter dated 11th May, 1799, from Mr Hutchison, Peterhead, addressed to the then Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy probably refers to this incident, while the writer was probably the Captain Hutchison recorded in the War Office Lists :—

“Our coast is greatly infested with French privateers. On Thursday night one of them chased a fishing smack into our bay, and yesterday morning we fired at the privateer from our battery, but she was at too great a distance for the shot to have any effect. Our view was to alarm any trading ships that might be on the coast.”

The Volunteer movement of 1859 was soon followed by the formation of four independent corps in the Buchan district, which were the commencement and the nucleus of the existing Buchan battalion of the Gordon Highlanders. These corps were :—

1st. The New Deer (5th)	One Company, initiated	1859.
2nd. The Peterhead (9th)	Two Companies, „	1859.
3rd. The Old Deer (17th)	Two Companies, „	1860.
4th. The Longside (20th)	One Company, „	1861.

These corps were originally independent units, and though all were clothed in grey, the uniform of each was distinctive. The 5th corps (New Deer) wore dark grey with red facings; the 9th, medium grey, red and black facings; the 17th, Elcho grey, with blue piping and black braid; and the 20th, dark grey with black facings.

The four corps were united for drill purposes as the 3rd Administrative Battalion in January, 1862, and in the following year the Government grey cloth, with black facings and knickerbockers, was adopted as the uniform of the battalion. In 1868 the uniform was changed to rifle green with red piping; in 1883

Gordon tartan trews were adopted, and in 1885-87 the scarlet doublet was assumed.

The St Fergus corps (24th)—a sub-division—afterwards amalgamated with the Peterhead corps (1875) was formed in 1867.

The New Pitsligo corps (25th)—one company—was formed in 1868, and the Administrative battalion then became entitled to a Major.

The Cruden corps (26th)—one company—was formed in 1872.

The Fraserburgh corps (24th, the number being transferred from St Fergus) was formed as one company in 1875.

The battalion was consolidated on 23rd May, 1880.

The Lonmay Company was organised on its present basis in 1885, when the headquarters of C Company (formerly the 2nd-9th Peterhead) were transferred from St Fergus to Crimond, from which, in 1888, they were moved to Lonmay. The Lonmay detachment had originally formed part of the Strichen Company.

K Company (the existing second Peterhead Company) was formed in 1883, and had its station at Boddam till April, 1888, when its headquarters were transferred to Peterhead.

The New Pitsligo Company ceased to exist as such in 1883, when its headquarters were transferred to Fraserburgh and it became the 2nd Fraserburgh (H) Company.

The Aberdour detachment (C Company) was formed in 1888.

Full lists of the officers of the Independent Companies and of the battalion extracted from the War Office Records down to a very recent date are appended to the following records of the regimental history. The order of arrangement that has been followed in

the narrative is to give first a record of the special history of the various companies in the order of their present lettering, which is substantially that of their original precedence, and then to supply a consecutive historical account of the battalion as such, first in its original Administrative, and secondly in its later consolidated organisation.

It may, however, be convenient to anticipate this narrative with a note of the various occasions on which the battalion has gone into camp.

1. 1871.—16th to 26th June ... At Aden House,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. Russell.
2. 1873.—24th to 29th June ... At Aden House,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. Russell.
3. 1877.—16th to 23rd June ... At Pitfour House,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. John Ferguson.
4. 1878.—19th to 22nd June ... At Pitfour House,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. John Ferguson.
5. 1880.—24th June to 1st July At Shevado (Brucklay Castle),
Commanding—Major Shepherd.
6. 1881.—23rd to 30th June ... At Shevado,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. Fordyce.
7. 1883.—12th to 20th June ... At Shevado,
Commanding—Lt.-Col. Fordyce.
8. 1889.—22nd to 28th June ... At Nether Aden,
Commanding—Col. Fordyce.
9. 1891.—6th to 12th June ... At Nether Aden,
Commanding—Col. Fordyce.
10. 1892.—17th to 23rd June ... (Brigade) At Dyce,
Commanding—Brig.-General F. S. Russell, C.M.G.
11. 1893.—23rd to 29th June ... At Nether Aden,
Commanding—Col. Fordyce.

The uniform of the battalion consists of the scarlet Highland doublet with yellow facings, tartan trews of the Gordon tartan (green with single yellow stripe), and diced (white, red, and green) Glengarry cap, with badge—the stag's head rising from a coronet upon a wreath of ivy, and the motto *Bydund*, being the crest, badge, and motto of the house of Gordon. The officers also wear the shoulder plaid, claymore, and dirk, with buff belts, and brooch similar to the bonnet badge,

and in undress the blue patrol jacket and peaked cap
with diced border.

The regimental march is the air of the well-known
local song

“O Logie o’ Buchan. O ! Logie the Laird.”

THE ORIGINAL CORPS
AND
THE COMPONENT COMPANIES.

A COMPANY,
NEW DEER,
Formerly the 5th A.R.V.

The first formed of the Buchan Volunteer Corps was the New Deer Company, which was constituted at New Deer on 19th December, 1859. It was formed originally as a sub-division, and its designation was the 17th, changed in August, 1860, to the 5th Aberdeenshire Rifle Volunteer Corps. The original officers were:—Captain William Dingwall Fordyce of Brucklay (Lieut. 1860, Capt. 1861); Lieutenant William Johnstone, Hillhead of Ironside; Ensign Joseph Murrison, Upper Cairnbanno. Surgeon William Leslie was appointed medical officer of the Company on 17th April, 1862. Captain William Dingwall Fordyce, M.P., commanded the Company from 1862 to 1875, and wore the uniform of the regiment in the Lords and Commons Competitions at Wimbledon. After his death in 1875, his brother, Captain Alexander Dingwall Fordyce, formerly of the 72nd Highlanders, was gazetted Captain of the Company, and held the Captaincy, latterly concurrently with the command of the regiment to which he was gazetted in July, 1880. At the Aberdeen Wapinschaw of 1873 Corporal Wm.

Dawson of this Company gained the cup presented by Her Majesty the Queen, which represents the blue riband of individual rifle-shooting in the North-Eastern District of Scotland. Corporal Dawson has also carried off many other prizes, among which may be specially mentioned Lady Lovat's Cup at the Northern Meeting, Inverness.

In 1873, Private John Henderson, New Deer, won the cup given to the Battalion by Colonel Russell of Aden. In 1885, the cup presented to the Battalion by Major and Adjutant Robertson, was won by Private George Watt of A Company, and the first of the money prizes presented by Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy, by Private A. Paterson.

B C O M P A N Y,

PETERHEAD,

Formerly the 9th A.R.V. (Peterhead) and the 24th A.R.V.
(St Fergus).

The Peterhead corps originated at a meeting held within the Court Room there on 12th December, 1859, presided over by the Provost, the first resolution of which was in these terms:—

“That this meeting is of opinion that the best security for maintaining peace is to be prepared for war; that the meeting highly approves of the armament by Volunteer corps, now generally organizing throughout Great Britain, as a system of National Defence in aid of Her Majesty’s Regular Forces, and resolve, in accordance with the resolutions of previous public meetings, that a Volunteer Rifle Corps be immediately formed on the principles and regulations laid down by Government, and that a Committee be formed for that purpose.”

A Committee was formed, and at a meeting of the members held on 31st December, there was produced “a letter from Mr Blaikie, factor for Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour, handsomely granting the privilege of the links of St Fergus for practising ground,” and it was reported that the number of volunteers had reached 118. The Harbour Trustees subscribed £21, the Community of Feuars £21, the Merchant Society of Peterhead £15 15s, the North of Scotland Bank £10 10s, the Commissioners of Police £10, and Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour £10, towards the expenses of raising and fitting out the corps.

The services of the corps were accepted in March, 1860. It was originally numbered the 21st Aberdeenshire, and its maximum establishment was 200 men

divided into two companies. The original officers were:—William Alexander, Captain Commandant; Thomas John Bremner, Captain; Charles Noble, Lieutenant; Thomas Arbuthnot, Lieutenant; Alexander Walker, Ensign; John Macintosh, Ensign; John Anderson, Assistant-Surgeon. Ensign (afterwards Captain) John Mackintosh was son of Capt. Donald Mackintosh of the former Peterhead Volunteers. On his retirement in 1875 his energetic services were recognised by a presentation from his brother officers and volunteers. The corps also owed much to Mr William Gammack, who for many years acted as its secretary, and was also secretary to, and Honorary Quarter-Master in the Administrative Battalion.

In acknowledging a communication about the uniform, it having been represented that the corps were "particularly desirous of being equipped by the Queen's birthday," the Vice-Lieutenant wrote on 7th April, "The activity and zeal of the Peterhead Companies have been conspicuous, and the result is very gratifying." On 10th May the corps consisted of 145 enrolled members. The following entry in the minute of 5th June, 1860, is peculiarly interesting, linking as it does the Buchan Battalion of to-day with the volunteers of the days of the Great War. "It was agreed to have the drum, now handed to the corps by the Messrs Hutchison, in whose charge it has been since the disembodiment of the Peterhead local Militia, immediately repaired."

The uniform was originally medium grey with red and black facings, and in 1863 the corps, along with the rest of the Administrative Battalion, adopted the Government grey. In February, 1863, it is recorded that it was resolved to practice the corps in blank firing in view of "the celebration of the Prince of Wales' marriage day."

In 1875 the St Fergus sub-division, formerly the 24th A.R.V., was amalgamated with the 9th A.R.V., St Fergus remaining a drill station and the Sergt.-Instructor attached to the 2nd Company 9th corps residing there. On consolidation this Company became C Company, and in 1883 its headquarters were again fixed at St Fergus. In 1885 the St Fergus volunteers were again dis-associated from their Peterhead comrades and united with the Crimond men and the Lonmay detachment. Peterhead and the vicinity, however, continued to support two Companies, as the place of C Company was taken by K Company, which originally drew most of its strength from Boddam.

In 1880 a bazaar was held for the purpose of providing funds for the erection of a drill hall, and shortly thereafter a handsome and commodious building was erected at a cost of about £1500, containing a spacious drill hall and suitable head-quarter offices, which now forms the headquarters of the Buchan Battalion.

In June, 1876, the first wapinschaw of the Buchan battalion was held on the Craig-Ewan range, links of St Fergus, at which the first prize was won by No. 2 Company of the 9th Corps. The same Company also won the first prize in 1877.

At the Aberdeen Wapinschaw of 1877 the 9th A.R.V. squad (No. 1 Company) won the Aberdeenshire bugle, "which has always been looked upon as the principal trophy of the meeting." In 1889 it won the Commanding Officer's Cup as a shooting prize. In 1868 Col.-Sergt. M'Kenzie, and in 1877 Private Jaffray of the 1st 9th Corps, won the cup presented to the battalion by Major Blair. Corporal W. J. Stephen, C Company, won the Aberdeenshire Badge at the wapinschaw in 1879, and the City Brooch in 1880.

The City Brooch had also been won once previously by Captain W. Stewart. In 1892 Sergt. W. L. Murray won the Adjutant's Prize.

In 1861 a gold medal was presented to the corps by Mr Dalziel for competition, and in the following year a silver medal was given by Captain Alexander. These medals had to be gained twice in succession to become the property of the winner, and in 1864 the conditions as to the gold medal were changed, and it was arranged that it should be shot for quarterly and held as a temporary trophy for three months.

A silver cup was also given to the corps by the Superiors of the Town (the Merchant Maiden Company), which continues to be shot for annually.

C COMPANY,

CRIMOND, LONMAY, AND ST FERGUS,

In succession to

The St Fergus Sub-Division 24th A.R.V.

By War Office letter, dated 3rd September, 1867, the services were accepted of "a sub-division of Rifle Volunteers at St Fergus." This corps was numbered the 24th in the County of Aberdeen, and its establishment was 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, and 59 of all ranks. The original officers were Lieutenant James Greig, Ensign Alexander Walker, and Chaplain Rev John Mitchell.

The St Fergus sub-division was in September, 1875, amalgamated with the Peterhead Corps, and its Lieutenant Commandant, Lieutenant Robertson, promoted to a Captaincy in the Peterhead Corps on 20th October, 1875. The number was transferred to the new Company raised at Fraserburgh. St Fergus remained a drill station, the Sergeant Instructor being stationed there, and in 1883 it was made the headquarters of the 2nd 9th Company, which had become C Company of the consolidated battalion.

In April, 1885, there being the elements of a good Company in the district stretching from St Fergus to Lonmay, the headquarters of this Company were transferred to Crimond, there being a detachment at St Fergus under Lieutenant Annand, and another at Lonmay under Lieutenant Jack. From Crimond the headquarters were moved in April, 1888, to Lonmay. The Lonmay detachment had originally formed part of the Strichen Company. In 1888 an additional detachment was raised at Aberdour, and the detachments at Crimond and St Fergus have died away.

In 1889 and 1891 Captain Jack won the Officer's Cup.

In 1887 Sergeant Charles Reid of this Company was the winner, at Edinburgh, of the Caledonian Shield, the champion trophy of Scotland, which was handed over to the custody of the Magistrates and Town Council of Peterhead in September of that year. In 1890 he won "The Graphic" Cup at Bisley. In 1891 he secured the Championship of the Scottish Twenty Club at Glasgow, and the Silver and Bronze Medals in the Buchan Scottish Twenty Club. In 1892 he fired in the International Competition, receiving a Badge as one of the winning team. In 1890 and 1892 he received a badge and prize in the final stage for the Queen's Cup at Bisley. In 1884 he won the City Brooch at the Aberdeen Wapinschaw, and in 1893 carried off the cup presented by Lord Provost Stewart of Aberdeen. In 1885, at the Montrose Meeting of the Angus and Mearns Rifle Association, he won the Brown Horse Cup, and has carried off over 50 other prizes since 1885, being in 1891 the best shot in the battalion during the annual course of instruction.

In 1888 the Aden Cup was won by Private Willox.

In 1889 Sergeant J. Mackie won the Adjutant's Prize.

D C O M P A N Y,
OLD DEER,
Formerly the 1st 17th A.R.V.

The third in seniority in the battalion of the original corps, retaining their original locality, is the Old Deer Company. Its seniority in the county was indicated by its number—the 17th Aberdeenshire.

Its minute book has been kept as a general rule with care from the date of the first meeting, which resulted in its formation, down to the consolidation of the independent Companies in the territorial battalion.

The minute of the first meeting thus records the origin of the Company :—

“At the School, Old Deer, the 29th February, 1860. A meeting of the parishioners was held here this evening for the purpose of taking steps for organizing a Rifle Volunteer Corps in the Parish, if agreeable to the wishes of the people.

Present—James Ferguson, Esquire of Kinmundy ; Rev. James Peter, Messrs David Cruden, John Lawrence, James Laing, Robert Wilson, Old Deer ; Milne, Biffie ; Mackie, Oldtown ; Ferguson, Brae of Coynach ; Davidson, Clackriach ; Brown, Old Deer, &c., &c.

Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy was called to the chair. Mr John Mackie proposed that Mr Robert Wilson should be appointed secretary. This proposition being duly seconded was agreed to by the meeting.

Thereafter the Chairman addressed the meeting, explaining the object of their being called together, and the desirableness of fostering a patriotic spirit and of being thoroughly prepared in case of emergency for repelling any hostile invasion, and urging the propriety of every able-bodied man coming forward boldly in defence of our native country.

The meeting being successively addressed by Mr Peter, Mr Mackie, and others, the following individuals were then recommended and nominated by the meeting to form a committee for the purpose of organizing a Company, viz.:—Messrs John Ferguson, Brae of Coynach; Cruden, Wilson, Lawrence, and Dinnes, Old Deer; Milne, Biffie; Fyvie, West Biffie; Grant, Pitfour; James Milne, West Crichtie; Boyd and Birnie, Stuartfield; Alex. Rennie, Mill of Aden; Smith, Mains of Gaval; Anderson, Greens; Anderson, Benwells; Adie, Auchmachar; Ferguson, Skillymarno; Morrison, Knapperty; Keith, Auchrynie; Keith, Stuartfield; Hall, Bruxie; Bruce, Millhill; Mackie, Oldtown; Davidson, Clackriach; Chivas, Spital; Webster, Slampton; &c., &c. A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman.”

The next meeting was held on 7th March, when a letter was read from Mr Russell of Aden, offering a subscription of £25, which he afterwards increased to £50. Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy also intimated a subscription of £25, and a like sum was given by Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour. A sub-committee was appointed to prepare Rules and Regulations, and another meeting was held on 18th July, at which Mr Russell of Aden presided, and several adhibited their names.

The real formation of the Company, however, occurred a week later at a largely-attended meeting, of which the minute is:—

“At Deer Schoolhouse, 25th July, 1860. Which day a meeting was held of persons wishing to form themselves into a Company or Companies of Rifle Volunteers. There was a numerous attendance. Mr Russell of Aden, Preses.

The minutes of last meeting having been read, the Chairman stated the object of the meeting to be to get

as many members enrolled as would form two Companies.

Mr Ferguson, younger of Kinmundy (*i.e.*, Mr William Ferguson, afterwards Captain of the Strichen Company), addressed the meeting in eloquent terms, warmly recommending the Volunteer movement, urging the necessity of raising a considerable well-trained force for defending the country in case of invasion, and detailing the benefits that would accrue to the country, as well as to the men themselves, of Volunteers uniting for being drilled in the use of these formidable weapons of war which modern science has brought to such perfection.

Thereafter, upon the invitation of the Chairman, upwards of fifty came forward and offered their services. It was also announced to the meeting that an opportunity would be given to the inhabitants of the districts round Clochcan and Shannas to meet in the schools at these places for the purpose of enrolling on the evening of the 30th instant.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated."

The distribution of the membership throughout the parish is indicated by the fact that, on 18th August, Deer Village, Clochcan, and Clola or Kinmundy were fixed on as the places for drill. On 30th August, the Captains were nominated—Mr Francis S. Russell, second son of Mr Russell of Aden, who is designed in the Muster Roll as "student," being elected Captain Commandant, and Mr John Ferguson, Coy-nach, second Captain. Mr Russell had, however, soon to leave the district in connection with his entry into the Army; and his personal connection with the Old Deer Volunteers was not renewed until, in 1892, after having served for many years in the regular forces and commanded the 1st Royal Dragoons, he was gazetted

Brigadier-General of the Aberdeen Volunteer Infantry Defence Brigade. His father was appointed in his place, and the original officers of the corps were :—

James Russell, Esquire of Aden,	... Captain Commandant.
John Ferguson, Esq., Coyneach,	... Captain.
David Cruden, J.P., Banker, Old Deer,	1. Lieutenant.
John Mackie, Farmer, Oldtown,	... 11. Lieutenant.
James Hall, Farmer, Bruxie,	... 1st Ensign.
James Milne, Farmer, West Crichtie,	... 2nd Ensign.

The uniform adopted was grey with blue facings.

The drill station of the 2nd Company was at Clola, and originally the drills took place at Kimmundy House, where also the rifles were at first kept. The range used by this Company was at Smallburn, on Kimmundy

In 1865 the corps was increased by the formation of a sub-division at Strichen, which subsequently became the 2nd Company of the 17th Corps, and ultimately E Company of the consolidated battalion. There is no minute extant of the period from 26th June, 1866, to 1st February, 1868, by which time the Old Deer Company appears first in the books as "the 1st Company of the 17th Aberdeenshire or Deer Rifle Volunteers." In that year, the corps, along with the rest of the Administrative battalion, assumed the green uniform. On 20th June, 1874, Major John Ferguson, who had commanded the corps since Captain Russell received the command of the Administrative battalion, was succeeded as Captain-Commandant by Lieutenant Keith, who held command of the Company till 9th October, 1880, when he was succeeded by Captain James Ferguson.

The minute of 12th December, 1879, contains the following reference to an officer who had done much for the battalion, and in particular for the Old Deer Company :—

"It was unanimously agreed to record the deep

regret the Battalion, and more especially the Old Deer Corps, had in the death of their esteemed Lieut.-Colonel John Ferguson, Brae of Coynach, which took place on the 15th October. The deceased took an active part in the formation of the corps, was its Captain until his promotion to Major, and since the commencement of the Volunteer movement always gave active and valuable assistance to everything furthering its development and welfare."

The last minute contains the following passage intimating the conclusion of the existence of the Old Deer Volunteers as a separate corps :—

"Parish School, Old Deer, 7th April, 1881. On which day the annual meeting of D Company 3rd Aberdeenshire (the Buchan) Rifle Volunteers, late 1st-17th A.R.V. Corps, was held—Captain James Ferguson (yr. of Kinmundy) in the chair.

The Chairman observed that, having attained its majority, this being the 21st year of its existence, the Old Deer Company was about to enter on a new phase of its career; and, having read the orders issued by Lieut.-Colonel Fordyce upon the consolidation of the Regiment, explained that, in consequence of the change which had taken place in the organisation of the battalion, this would be the last annual meeting of the Company, it being no longer a separate corps, but merged in the now consolidated battalion, and that its financial affairs would, in common with those of the other Companies, be managed by a battalion Finance Committee. He therefore took over from Mr Fairweather, the secretary, the books and accounts of the Company, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Fairweather for his past services."

In 1883 the Old Deer Company, the old uniform being still worn, possessed the first piper of the Buchan Battalion, his uniform consisting of a rifle-green doublet

with red piping, kilt and plaid of the Ferguson tartan (green with one white and two red stripes), and black and red hose.

On 27th September, 1888, the Company had the honour of furnishing a guard of honour for H.R.H. the Duchess of Albany, who then arrived at Mintlaw Station on a visit to Aden House.

It gained the battalion silver bugle for best percentage of attendance on parade in 1877.

It gained the Commanding Officer's cup, as a shooting prize, in 1887 and 1892.

The Queen's Prize, annually given at the Wapinschaw of the Aberdeenshire Artillery and Rifle Association, has been won upon three occasions by members of this Company :—By Lieutenant James Cooper Rennie in 1878 ; by Colour-Sergeant Arthur Pirie in 1889 ; by Sergeant Littlejohn in 1892.

Lieutenant J. C. Rennie (v.d.), whose name was No. 2 upon the original roll of the Old Deer Company, and who has now the longest service of any member of the battalion, has also been the winner of the following among other prizes :—Silver cup presented by Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour to the Old Deer Volunteers—won in 1863, and again in 1866 and 1867, when it became his property. Gold cross presented by Mr Fairweather to the Old Deer Volunteers—won in 1868 and 1869. Silver cup presented by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour to the Old Deer and St Fergus Volunteers—won in 1869 and 1870, when it became his property. Silver cup presented by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour—won in 1882. Cup presented by Captain and Adjutant Blair to the Buchan battalion—won in 1874. The Battalion Officer's cup—won in 1889, 1892, and 1893.

Colour-Sergeant Arthur Pirie has also, among many other prizes, carried off the following :—Silver cup

presented by Colonel Ferguson of the Buchan Rifles for skirmishing in 1879. Battalion cup presented by Major and Adjutant Robertson in 1884. Battalion silver cup presented by J. G. F. Russell of Aden—won twice in succession in 1883-4 and again in 1886-7. Silver cup presented by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour in 1880 and 1881, when it became his property. Pitfour Cup, presented by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour in 1883, and again in 1888. Silver tankard presented by Mr T. W. Fairweather to Old Deer Company—won in 1879, 1880, and 1881. Gold cross, Scottish Twenty Club in 1892. Association badge, Aberdeen Wapinschaw, 1884. Corporation Cup, Montrose, 1884. Ladies' Gold Cross, Aberdeen, 1890. Corporation Cup, Aberdeen, 1891.

Sergeant Littlejohn has also won the Pitfour Cup, presented by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour to the Old Deer Company, three times in succession—in 1889, 1890, and 1891, when it became his property.

In 1884 Colour-Sergeant Adie of this Company was first in the competition for money prizes presented to the battalion by Wm. Ferguson, Esq. of Kinmundy.

In 1877 Private J. Johnston (1-17th) won the cup presented by Mr Russell of Aden.

At a very early period in the history of the Company a challenge cup was presented to it by Admiral Ferguson of Pitfour, which was shot for annually, the competition being originally open to both Companies of the Deer Corps (17th), and the St Fergus sub-division also. The first of these annual competitions was held in 1863. From 1868 to 1873, money prizes, amounting to £10, given by Captain William Ferguson of Kinmundy, were competed for along with the Pitfour Cup. At one time a medal presented by the secretary, and at another one presented by Captain Keith,

were also shot for. In 1877 a silver cup was presented by Captain Keith to be once competed for.

From 1881 onwards there has been a regular annual competition for the Pitfour Cup, and for £5 in money prizes given by Captain James Ferguson, commanding the Company, which have been given partly for drill attendance, partly to recruits for good shooting, but mainly as general shooting prizes so arranged as to encourage a good average of shooting throughout the Company.

The Pitfour Cup, originally given by Admiral Ferguson, became the property of Col.-Sergt. Rennie in 1867, who had won it twice in succession. Its successor, presented by his son, Colonel G. A. Ferguson, was similarly won by Col.-Sergt. Rennie in 1870. A second successor, also presented by Col. Ferguson, was won in 1880 and 1881 by Corporal (Col.-Sergt.) Pirie, and, being then held on the condition that it should belong to a winner who obtained it twice in succession, became the property of Corporal Pirie. Another cup was given by Colonel Ferguson of Pitfour, which had to be won three times in succession to become the property of the winner. In 1891 it was won for the third time in three years by Sergeant Littlejohn, and Colonel Ferguson again presented a successor to the Old Deer Company.

E C O M P A N Y,
STRICHEN,
Formerly the 2nd-17th A.R.V.

The origin of the Strichen Company is to be traced in the minute-book of the 17th A.R.V., Old Deer. On 4th May, 1865, its Committee of Management held a meeting, the record of which contains the following:

“It having been intimated that there was a disposition on the part of a number of young men resident in Strichen and its neighbourhood to join this Corps if allowed, and form a sub-division, the Committee of Management being satisfied of its desirableness, and wishing to increase the strength of the Corps, recommended that every facility should be afforded and encouragement given. With this view they arranged to have a full meeting of the Corps at Strichen on an early day, accompanied by the members of the Band, who had offered to give a concert in connection therewith.”

At the Annual General Meeting on 18th May, “Messrs James Chalmers, merchant, and William M'Donald, watchmaker, Strichen, were introduced to the Meeting by Ensign Boyd as a deputation from a number of young men in and around Strichen wishing to join the Corps, and wanting information as to the conditions on which they would be allowed to become members.”

The first enrolment of members at Strichen was on 30th May, 1865. Among those who took the most active part in the formation of the Company were Messrs Chalmers and Sivewright, and Mr William M'Donald, who for many years after was its Colour-Sergeant.

The Strichen sub-division or detachment was in 1867 constituted No. 2 Company, and from 1868 the Minutes of the Old Deer Company generally bear to be these of the 1st Company, though the Annual Meeting continued to be one of the whole Corps.

The original officers of the Strichen Company were:—William Ferguson, Esquire of Kinmundy, Captain; James Chalmers, Lieutenant; David Sive-wright, Ensign. In June, 1874, Lieutenant Chalmers was promoted to the Captaincy. In 1877 a contingent was raised at Lonmay, which in 1885 was detached from Strichen and united to C Company. The Company has provided itself with a well equipped reading and recreation room in connection with the armoury.

The Company won the Efficiency Silver Bugle in 1879 and again in 1882; the Commanding Officer's Cup, given to the best drilled Company in 1884; the Commanding Officer's Cup, given for shooting in 1885, and again in 1888; the Tug of War Cup in 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, and 1889; and the Silver Bugle for the best average of drill attendances in 1888. In 1890 E Company tied with I Company for the Commanding Officer's Cup. The Silver Bugle was also twice held by the Company when given for bugling, being won by Bugler J. Mason in 1883, and by Bugler T. Davidson in 1890. Squads from this Company won the Forfarshire Challenge Cup at Montrose in 1888, 1890, and 1893, and tied for it in 1889 and 1892.

In 1890 Private J. Murray of this Company won the Caledonian Shield, which was thus held for a second time by the Battalion, and handed over to the custody of the Magistrates and Town Council of Peterhead.

Among many other prizes won by Private Murray were the following:—

In 1888 he won Lady Sempill's Cup at Aberdeen

Wapinschaw, and bronze cross in the grand aggregate at Wimbledon.

In 1889 he won the Gold Cross in the Scottish Twenty competition, and Lady Sempill's Cup with the highest score ever made at Aberdeen Wapinschaw.

In 1890, in addition to winning the Caledonian Shield at Edinburgh, he won the Gold Cross of the Scottish Twenty at Aberdeen, tied for the Queen's Cup there, and only failed to obtain it by having one outer in his score, won the Silver Association Badge, and tied with Sergeant Reid, Lonmay, and Gunner Webster, A.A.V., for Lord Provost Henderson's cup, and won it. At Montrose he carried off Mr Horatio Ross's cup. At Bisley he won a bronze badge in the grand aggregate; won the silver medal and badge in the second stage of the Queen's Prize, and finally finished second.

In 1891 he won the Gold Cross in the Buchan branch of the Scottish Twenty Club, and was first in the President's competition at the Edinburgh Meeting.

In 1892 he won Mr Russell of Aden's battalion cup, the silver cross of the Scottish Twenty, and the bronze medal for Aberdeenshire at Aberdeen. He again secured Mr Horatio Ross's cup at Montrose, and at Darnley was second in the grand aggregate and won the Silver Thistle Badge.

In 1893 he again won the Gold Cross of the Buchan Scottish Twenty Club, and again carried off the Bronze Medal for Aberdeenshire at the Aberdeen Wapinschaw.

Among leading prizes won by other members of E Company may also be mentioned :—

The Battalion Officer's Cup, won by Lieutenant Trail in 1887.

The Adjutant's Prize, won by Lance-Corporal John Roger in 1888.

The Silver Badge at Darnley, won by Private Wm. Taylor in 1888.

The first prize in the Sergeant Instructor's competition, won by Sergeant Scott in 1888.

The Association Badge, Aberdeen, won by Private Taylor in 1889.

The President's Prize at Montrose, won by Lance-Corporal Roger in 1892.

The battalion cup presented by Mrs Dingwall-Fordyce of Brucklay, won by Corporal J. Sim in 1892.

In 1893 Private James Murray obtained the first prize in the Recruit's competition at Aberdeen.

F COMPANY,
LONGSIDE,
Formerly the 20th A.R.V.

The Longside Corps was the fourth formed in Buchan, and dates from the year 1861. Its minute book does not record the meeting at which the movement was initiated, but the Company was formed at "a general meeting of those who have signified their intention to enrol as members of a Volunteer Corps to be raised in Longside and neighbourhood." Upwards of 50 were present at this meeting, held on 21st May, 1861, and the minute records that "William Alexander, Esq. of Whitehill, Provost of Peterhead, was unanimously called to the chair. Provost Alexander opened the meeting by mentioning the object of their assembling to-night, which was for the purpose of forming a Rifle Corps in Longside. He then detailed the arrangements which would be required to be gone into in order to get the Corps constituted and getting its services accepted by Government. Captain Alexander gave his experiences in raising the Peterhead Corps, which he has the honour of commanding; throwing out several hints and suggestions for the guidance of the Meeting. He suggested a Committee should be appointed immediately for the purpose of carrying out the preliminary measures.

Captain Hutchison, of the 1st Aberdeenshire Artillery Volunteer Corps, Peterhead, complimented the Meeting upon the number of members who had enrolled themselves, being, he believed, now upwards of 60, and said they had his hearty co-operation and good wishes." The Meeting proceeded to elect officers, and those chosen were :—William Hutchison, Esquire

of Cairngall, Captain ; Robert Scott, Yokieshill, Lieutenant ; — Smith, Dumbston, Ensign.

The Minute concludes :—" The Meeting broke up with three cheers for the Queen, and three for Captain Alexander and the Peterhead Rifle Corps."

On 25th September, 1861 (?), a Committee was appointed "for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of joining the Peterhead Company in forming a battalion for the district, as also the Aberdeenshire Artillery and Rifle Association." On 29th October, 1862, a return was made to the War Office as to the uniform in these terms :—" Colour of Tunic, Colour of Trousers, Colour of Facings—dark grey, dark grey, and black."

On 27th July, 1863, a meeting of the officers and Committee "was of opinion that the uniform presently in use was of the best colour, but should a change be necessary they would recommend the Government grey." In 1868 a Committee was appointed to attend the Battalion meeting at Old Deer "in regard to the proposed new uniform for the Battalion," with full powers.

On 2nd January, 1877, a meeting was held at which "the retirement of Captain Hutchison from the command of the Corps having been intimated, it was unanimously resolved—That the Corps tender to Captain Hutchison its sincere regret at his retirement, and most respectfully request him to accept a small memorial of his connection with the Corps as a mark of the high esteem all ranks entertain towards him as their commanding officer for the past 15 years."

Captain Hutchison was succeeded by Captain Scott, and he by Captain Barron, after whose retirement the command passed to Captain W. E. Hutchison of Cairngall, son of the first Captain of the Company.

On 30th April, 1892, a bazaar was held in aid of

the private fund of the Company, which realized over £100.

On 19th January, 1894, Sergeant-Major Darling, formerly of the Coldstream Guards, who had acted as its Sergeant-Instructor for 32½ years, and as Sergeant-Major of the Battalion for nearly 23 years, was presented with a purse of sovereigns on retiring from service.

At the Wapinschaw (Aberdeen) of 1891 the Longside Company of the Buchan Battalion won the first prize for volley firing.

The Silver Bugle, presented by the ladies of Buchan to the Battalion, and given for efficiency in drill, was won five years in succession (1870—1874) by the Longside Company.

Sergeant Clarke of this Company, at Aberdeen Wapinschaw, won Lady Forbes's Cup in 1879, and the Corporation Cup in 1880.

G COMPANY,
FRASERBURGH,
Formerly the 24th A.R.V., Fraserburgh.

The first Company of Rifle Volunteers in Fraserburgh was formed in the year 1875. It received the number 24th then set free by the amalgamation of the St Fergus sub-division with the Peterhead Corps. At a meeting convened by Mr Andrew Tarras, who along with Messrs William Macconachie, George Walker, and Alexander Melvin took the most active part in the formation of the Company, and held in the Town House on 26th February, 1875, there was a large attendance, great enthusiasm prevailed, and over 100 names were forthwith enrolled. By the 10th of March the number had risen to 145. The original officers were :—Mr Andrew Tarras, Captain ; Mr William Macconachie, Lieutenant ; Mr George Walker, Second Lieutenant ; Dr Napier, Surgeon Lieutenant ; Rev. James Hill, Acting Chaplain. The community of Fraserburgh responded liberally to an appeal for the necessary funds.

The first inspection, in 1876, shewed 102 efficient, and in 1894 there still remained in the Battalion of the original members of the first Fraserburgh Company—Hon. Major Macconachie, Quarter-Master Sergeant Melvin, Colour-Sergeant Chapman, and Sergt. Duncan.

In 1878 the 24th Corps won the Silver Bugle for best attendance at drill.

In 1886 G Company won the Commanding Officer's Cup, given that year as a shooting prize. It won the Tug of War Cup in 1887.

In 1890 Private J. Mackie won the Aden Cup, and Sergeant W. Duncan the Adjutant's Prize.

Private James Burnett, G Company, won first place in the Nursery Prizes competition at Aberdeen Wapinschaw in 1887, Corporal James Wilson in 1891, and Corporal James Aitchison in 1892.

H COMPANY,
FRASERBURGH,
Formerly the 25th A.R.V. (New Pitsligo).

The New Pitsligo Corps was raised in 1868, its services being accepted by War Office letter dated 27th March of that year. It was numbered the 25th in the county, and its establishment was that of a full Company, 100 of all ranks. The original officers were:—Lord Clinton, Captain, who retired on 9th November, 1880; George Brown Lieutenant; George Matthews, Ensign. In 1871 the Very Rev. Dean Webster was appointed Hon. Chaplain, and was the only member of the Pitsligo Corps who continued attached to it after it was converted into the 2nd Fraserburgh Company.

In January, 1883, the headquarters of H Company were transferred to Fraserburgh, where a large increase in the Battalion had taken place. The orders of 5th January of that year state that "the prompt and ready response given to the call for a reinforcement at Fraserburgh has been most gratifying to the commanding officer and his staff." At the first inspection subsequent 96 men were passed efficient, while G Company was not impaired. Lieutenant Macconachie was promoted and transferred to the new Company as its first Captain.

In 1869 the Aden Cup was won by Sergeant Clarke, New Pitsligo, and in 1871 and 1873 Sergeant Scott of New Pitsligo won the Adjutant's Cup given by Captain Blair.

The Fraserburgh Companies possess one of the finest ranges in Buchan, the use of which was granted by Lord Saltoun, who also presented a cup, which is shot for annually by the Artillery and Rifle Volunteers.

This cup was gained in 1885 by Lance-Corporal Davidson, H Company, and in the same year Private P. Davidson, also of this Company, won the Battalion Cup presented by Mr Russell of Aden.

I COMPANY,
CRUDEN,
Formerly the 26th A.R.V.

The Cruden Company was first organised in 1872, being formed as the 26th A.R.V. Corps. The original officers were:—James Shepherd of Aldie, Captain; John Marr, Lieutenant; Alex. Moir, Ensign. Dr Geo. J. Fraser was soon after appointed Acting Assistant Surgeon, and the Rev. W. L. Low, Hon. Chaplain.

Captain Shepherd was promoted Major in 1877, appointed Musketry Instructor to the Battalion in 1890, and Supply and Transport Officer to the Aberdeen Volunteer Infantry Brigade in 1892.

In 1888 this Company won the Commanding Officer's Cup for drill, and in 1890 the same cup for shooting.

Private James Mitchell gained the Queen's Prize at the Wapinschaw in Aberdeen in 1881, and Private John Davidson carried off the same trophy in 1888.

Lieut. W. Davidson won the Battalion Officer's Cup in 1883.

The Adjutant's Cup and the Battalion Cup have also been won by Private Alexander Davidson.

Private W. Anderson won the Aden Cup in 1889.

K COMPANY,
PETERHEAD,
Formerly Boddam.

This Company was formed in 1883, when the Battalion was increased by the enrolment of a number of members at Boddam. Its headquarters were at Boddam up to April, 1888, when they were transferred to Peterhead. It possesses a gold cross, which is won by the member having the best aggregate score in class firing for the year.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE BATTALION.

The independent Corps then existing in the district, being the 5th New Deer, 9th Peterhead (establishment two Companies), 17th Old Deer (establishment two Companies), and 20th Longside, were formed into the 3rd Administrative Aberdeenshire Battalion by War Office letter, dated 25th January, 1862, with headquarters at Peterhead. The first Adjutant was Major Mayne, and Mr Russell of Aden was on 6th May recommended for appointment as Lieutenant-Colonel. In the latter part of 1862 a bazaar was held at Peterhead to raise funds for Battalion purposes.

The uniforms of the various Corps had differed in shade and in the colour of the facings. On 18th August, 1863, it was agreed to adopt the Government grey cloth for the uniform of the Battalion, the facings to be black. On 23rd April, 1864, it was decided—"the cap now in use by the different Corps being nearly similar"—that "the same style of cap be adopted with the addition of a border of Dyce lace." In that year the Battalion is found designed as "the 3rd (or Buchan) Administrative Battalion."

On 20th November, 1867, Lieut.-Colonel Mayne, the first Adjutant of the Battalion, having resigned, a meeting of the officers recorded in their minutes "their regret that the Battalion should lose the valuable and efficient services of an officer so pre-eminently qualified for the discharge of his military duties," and their

hope that, "while Colonel Mayne is about to retire to private life, he may live long in the enjoyment of good health and great comfort." His brother officers had resolved to present Colonel Mayne with a silver cup as a memento of his connection with the Battalion, which was to have been handed to him on a visit he proposed to pay subsequently to Peterhead. Unfortunately, that visit was never accomplished, and the cup was sent to his widow.

Colonel Mayne had been succeeded by Captain Blair, from the 6th Foot, who was taken on the strength from 29th May, 1867. A meeting of officers was held on 3rd February, 1868, at which it was resolved to change the uniform to rifle green, with a narrow red stripe down the trousers, and to ask "Her Majesty's gracious permission for the Battalion to bear the designation of 'The Royal Buchan Rifle Volunteer Corps'."

The designation "Royal" was either not applied for or not granted, but, from 8th June, 1867 to June, 1880, the Battalion was popularly known and was designated in Regimental Orders as "the Buchan Rifles," a designation which also appeared on the scroll below the thistle forming the badge worn on the Glengarry forage cap.

The St Fergus and New Pitsligo Corps were now added to the Battalion, and the headquarters were transferred to Old Deer as at 30th October, 1868. A review and sham fight took place at Peterhead on 17th July, 1869, and the Earl of Kintore, Lord Lieutenant of the County, was present at the inspection on 4th August.

The year 1871 witnessed the arming with the Snider rifle and a great advance in the efficiency of the Battalion, a large number of the officers attending courses at schools of instruction and obtaining certifi-

cates of proficiency. These included all the combatant officers of the Old Deer Company. Captain John Ferguson passed at the Tower of London, and Lieut. Keith and Ensign Boyd at Aldershot. Lieut. Scott (Longside) went through his course at St George's Barracks, and Captain Lord Clinton (New Pitsligo) at Chelsea Barracks. Captain Alexander and Lieut. Yule (Peterhead) went through a course at Manchester, and Lieut. Robertson (St Fergus) at the Tower. Two years later Captains W. Dingwall Fordyce of Brucklay and Shepherd of Aldie passed at Wellington Barracks.

In 1871 the Battalion went under canvas for the first time, being, it is believed, one of the first Battalions in Scotland to form a regimental camp. The camp was pitched within the grounds of Aden, in a field near the South Lodge sloping down to the river Ugie, near the village of Old Deer. The following order was subsequently issued by the Commanding Officer :—

BATTALION ORDER BY LIEUT.-COL. RUSSELL,
COMMANDING BUCHAN RIFLES.

Lieutenant-Colonel Russell has much pleasure in conveying to the Battalion the opinion expressed by Colonel Macleod Fraser, Assistant Adjutant-General of the District, in his written remarks to Colonel Russell on the state of the Battalion.

Colonel Fraser states he found the arms very clean and in good order, the accoutrements well put on and clean, and the men steady in the ranks. Considering the length of the grass and the uneven state of the ground the marching past was better than Colonel Fraser anticipated, the distances between companies and the dressing being well kept. The drill on the whole was satisfactory. Colonel Fraser found the Camp in every respect good, and he thinks the Battalion will derive much benefit from it. He trusts the satisfactory results may lead to another being formed on a future occasion. Colonel Russell embraces the opportunity of thanking the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men for their good conduct in Camp and cheerful obedience to discipline, without which latter qualification no regiment can be of service.

The ready manner in which all ranks vied with each other in performing the military duties of the Camp, which were new to almost all, affords ample proof that all ranks of the

Battalion are anxious to perform their respective duties to the best of their ability. The Camp has been the means of demonstrating that drill is not all that is required to be an effective soldier. It also shews how a friendly feeling and good fellowship can be maintained between Officers and Men, and duty at the same time strictly carried out. In the name of the Battalion, Colonel Russell thanks the friends of the Volunteers who came forward so generously with presents of farm produce, tea, sugar, &c. The contributions to the Camp from the country districts were large, beyond all expectation.

Colonel Russell hopes on a future occasion to see the Battalion again under canvas, and with the same satisfactory results.

Colonel Russell cannot refrain from bringing to the notice of the Battalion the unwearied exertions of Captain and Adjutant Blair, and ably assisted by the Officers generally. Colonel Russell attributes the great success of the ten days in Camp life to the judicious arrangements and active and energetic manner in which every department was carried out. The exertions of Lieutenant Scott, 20th A.R.V. Corps, Camp Quarter-Master, and his assistant, Sergt.-Instructor Mortimer, and those of Sergeant-Major Darling deserve special mention.

J. RUSSELL,

Lieutenant-Colonel Commanding Buchan Rifles.

OLD DEER, 4th July, 1871.

On 22nd May, 1872, a new pattern of rifle busby was approved of for the Battalion instead of the chaco previously worn, and in that year the Cruden Company was added to the strength of the regiment.

In 1873 a second regimental camp was held at Aden, on the occasion of which the Battalion was again most favourably reported on, and Col. Russell was subsequently able to issue the following Battalion Orders:—

HEADQUARTERS, OLD DEER, 12th July, 1873.

Lieutenant-Colonel Russell has the authority of Colonel Dawson, Commanding 56th Brigade Depot, to make known to the Battalion the result of the Official Inspection held at the Camp, Aden, on 28th June.

Lieutenant-Colonel Russell thanks the Officers, Permanent Staff, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates for the highly gratifying state of efficiency the Battalion has attained.

He will not presume to add one word to the unqualified commendation the Inspecting Officer has bestowed on the Camp Arrangements, the Drill, and General State of the Regiment.

In justice to himself, he must, however, add that it is only at the express desire of the Officer charged with the instruction of the Regiment that he refrains from making any allusion to his services, which have so largely contributed to the successful termination of the Season's Training.

J. RUSSELL,
Lieut.-Colonel Commanding Buchan Rifles.

INSPECTING OFFICER'S REPORT.

ABERDEEN, 7th July, 1873.

SIR,—With regard to the Inspection of the Regiment under your command, made by me on the 28th June, 1873, I have the honour to request you will make known to the Battalion the following remarks.

The appearance of the Battalion on Parade was most creditable. The Camp Arrangements seem to have been made with the utmost care and regularity.

The cleanliness and neatness of the Tents particularly struck me. The manner in which they were pitched calls for unqualified commendation. Taking into consideration the difficulties with which Administrative Battalions of Volunteers have to contend, I can testify with pleasure to the steadiness of the Drill.

The Officers appear to have been well instructed, and display a good spirit of zeal for the Service.

The Inspection altogether was highly satisfactory, and it is my pleasing duty to report to the War Office most favourably upon the 3rd Administrative Battalion, Aberdeenshire Rifle Volunteers.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

F. G. DAWSON,
Colonel Commanding 56th Brigade Depot.

To Lieut.-Colonel RUSSELL,
Commanding 3rd Battalion A.R.V.,
OLD DEER.

HEADQUARTERS, OLD DEER, 5th September, 1873.

Lieutenant-Colonel Russell has extreme gratification in announcing to all Ranks of the Battalion that His Royal Highness The Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief has been graciously pleased to make the following remarks on the Battalion, viz. :—

“The Report of this Battalion is most satisfactory ; and the manner in which the Camp was pitched, and the cleanliness preserved, reflects great credit on all Ranks.

(Signed) E. G. BULWER, Col.,
For Inspector-General of Auxiliary Forces.

By Order,
J. B. BLAIR,
Captain and Adjutant, Buchan Rifles.

In 1874 Colonel Russell was again able to announce to the Battalion that Colonel Dawson, the Inspecting Officer, had informed him that he had been "enabled to forward to the War Office a very favourable report" of his inspection of the Battalion.

The year 1875 saw the first change in the command of the Battalion since its formation. The Battalion Orders of 20th January, by Major Ferguson, contained the following announcement :—

"As senior officer it devolves on Major Ferguson to announce to the Regiment the death of their first Colonel, Lieut.-Colonel Russell.

The deep interest Colonel Russell took from the very commencement in the Volunteer Movement continued to the last. His genial manner and kindly bearing will long be remembered by those who served in the Battalion whose efficiency he had always at heart."

In August, 1875, the St Fergus Corps (24th) was amalgamated with the Peterhead (9th) Corps, and the services of a new Corps raised at Fraserburgh were accepted. The establishment of the 9th Corps remained at two Companies, and that of the Fraserburgh Corps (numbered the 24th) was fixed at one Company. Major Ferguson was again able to announce that the Inspecting Officer had "expressed his entire satisfaction with the drill and efficiency of the Regiment," and in a later order he was able to state that "the confidential remarks by His Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief on the Inspecting Officer's report on the Battalion for 1875, justify the Commanding Officer in stating that the Regiment keeps up its good name for discipline and drill." On 29th November, another melancholy announcement fell to be made.

"With the deepest regret," ran the Battalion Orders of that day, "Major Ferguson has to announce the

death of Captain W. Dingwall Fordyce, commanding 5th Aberdeen R.V. Corps of this Battalion, which melancholy event took place on Friday, 26th inst., at Brucklay Castle.

Captain W. Dingwall Fordyce's name was so intimately known to all volunteers as a warm and steady supporter of the movement from the very commencement that Major Ferguson feels no words of his could add to the respect and esteem in which he was held by all ranks of the Battalion. He trusts, however, he may be permitted to offer the sincere and respectful sympathy of the Battalion to the Brucklay family."

In 1876, the officer commanding the sub-district again "expressed his general approval of the drill, dress, and general efficiency of the Battalion."

In April, 1877, Captain Blair resigned the Adjutancy, subsequently receiving a Majority in the Battalion, and the orders of 19th April contained the following reference to his services :—

"The officer commanding the Battalion deems it his duty to place on record the very efficient manner in which Captain Blair has discharged his duties as Adjutant in this Battalion for the last ten years, during which period the Battalion has doubled in numbers, and attained an exceedingly creditable state of efficiency under his instruction."

Captain David Papillon, 92nd Gordon Highlanders, joined as Adjutant on 1st June, 1877. The same year the third regimental camp was pitched upon the island in the grounds of Pitfour. The weather was bad, but Colonel Annesley, the Inspecting Officer, "thought the regiment deserved a great deal of credit altogether." Two pleasing incidents of the occasion were the presentation by Colonel Annesley to Private John Davidson (Peterhead) of a Board of Trade medal for

saving life at sea, and the presentation by Colonel Ferguson, on behalf of the Battalion, to Major Blair of a silver tea service as a memento of his connection with the Buchan Rifles. Major and Mrs Blair also received a presentation from the drill instructors and their wives. The fourth camp was held on the same ground in 1878. On 10th August, 1878, the Battalion Orders conveyed the following observations upon the report of the Inspecting Officer: "H.R.H. the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief considers the report on this Battalion very satisfactory, and the state of the camp creditable to the Corps."

On 22nd October, 1879, the battalion orders contained the intimation of another devolution of command.

"The sad duty falls on Major Blair to communicate officially to the Regiment the death, on the 15th inst., of Lieut.-Col. J. Ferguson, the second colonel of the Battalion since its formation.

Connected with the Regiment since 1860, Lieut.-Col. Ferguson passed through the various grades until he attained the command of the Regiment in 1876. The 17th Corps well knows the interest he took in the Volunteer force while he remained their commandant, and this Corps in particular will unite with the whole Regiment in mourning the death of a kind and warm-hearted Commanding Officer, who lost no opportunity of promoting the welfare of the Regiment during the period of his command.

Major Blair trusts any deficiency in recording the merits of their departed comrade will be attributed to Major Blair's want of words to express adequately the sincere regret he shares with all ranks of the Battalion."

On 15th April, 1880, Major Blair issued the following order:—

“H.R.H. the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief considering it undesirable that an officer holding a permanent appointment in Ireland should serve as a volunteer, Major Blair has tendered his resignation for Her Majesty’s gracious acceptance from the 18th instant.

To his old comrades he desires to add one word—
‘farewell’.”

The command devolved upon Major Shepherd.

On 18th May the adoption of “an invisible green Glengarry with scarlet dicing as a full dress head-dress, in lieu of the busby,” was authorised, and on the 23rd the Battalion was consolidated.

THE CONSOLIDATED BATTALION.

As a result of consolidation, the various local Corps ceased to exist as separate Corps, and became Lettered Companies of the Consolidated Battalion. These were as follows:—

A Company	...	5th Corps	...	New Deer
B Company	...	1-9th Corps	...	Peterhead
C Company,	...	2-9th Corps	...	Peterhead
D Company	...	1-17th Corps	...	Old Deer
E Company	...	2-17th Corps	...	Strichen
F Company	...	20th Corps	...	Longside
G Company	...	24th Corps	...	Fraserburgh
H Company	...	25th Corps	...	New Pitligo
I Company	...	26th Corps	...	Cruden

Until further orders the Battalion took the number of the senior Corps, and was styled "5th Aberdeenshire (The Buchan) Rifle Volunteers," its establishment being fixed at 900 of all ranks divided into nine Companies. On 18th June the Battalion was for the last time designed in Regimental Orders as the "Buchan Rifles," and, in conformity with instructions from the War Office, numbered and designed "the 3rd Aberdeenshire (The Buchan) Rifle Volunteer Corps." The badges on the bonnets were also changed, the new one being a St Andrews Cross in a scroll bordered with thistles, and bearing the designation of the Battalion.

In June, 1880, the Battalion went into camp under Major Shepherd's command at Shevado (Brucklay Castle), and on 24th July Captain Alexander Dingwall Fordyce, formerly Captain in the 72nd Highlanders, was gazetted Lieutenant-Colonel.

The new Rules of the Corps were approved of at a meeting of Officers and Volunteers, held at Maud on 2nd April, 1881, and came into force on 4th May. The Battalion again went under canvas at Shevado in 1881, and the Battalion Orders of 11th July contained the following:—

“The Commanding Officer publishes herewith, by order of the Officer commanding 56th Sub-District, the following remarks made by him after the recent inspection.

“In addressing Lieut.-Colonel Fordyce, Colonel Tisdall said that he was pleased with everything he had seen in Camp, the cleanliness of the tents, the general appearance of the men and their accoutrements. In these respects the Battalion had nothing to learn. Particular praise was due to the Quarter-Master's department. With regard to the parade, the march past was all that could be desired, and the steadiness of the men very good. The manœuvring in Battalion drill was done fairly well, and the attack was very good, in which officers and all concerned shewed much intelligence. From the fact that two officers were under examination, and the Battalion in a manner broken up for the purpose, he (Colonel Tisdall) had been unable to address the Regiment and express his sentiments to the men as he had intended to do.”

A pleasing incident of this camp was the presentation of a sword and belt by the men of the Old Deer Company to Lieut. Rennie, upon receiving his commission after 21 years' service in the Company since the date of its formation.

On 7th December, 1881, the headquarters were changed to Peterhead, and in intimating the resignation of Captain Chalmers, Strichen, the orders continued :—“The Commanding Officer regrets the loss

that the Battalion has sustained in the retirement of an officer who did so much to maintain the efficiency of the Corps. As a Company Officer at Strichen, Capt. Chalmers (by his untiring exertions for many years) earned the most favourable reports from all inspecting officers, and it is with unfeigned regret that the Commanding Officer has to bid him farewell."

On 24th March, 1882, the orders, in intimating the retirement of Lieut. Laing, New Deer, thus referred to his services:—"For a long term of years Lieut. Laing has done his utmost, both in his Company and in his Regiment, to further the interests of the Volunteer Force and uphold its efficiency, and will be greatly missed by his comrades and Commanding Officer."

On 31st May, 1882, Major Papillon's term of service as Adjutant came to an end, and he was succeeded by Major P. F. Robertson, also of the 92nd Gordon Highlanders.

"It is with very great regret," ran the orders, "that the Commanding Officer has to announce to the Corps the departure of Major Papillon, Gordon Highlanders, at the end of the prescribed term of service of five years as Adjutant. No more zealous or capable officer could have been selected for the post which he now, by the rules of the service, is obliged to vacate.

By strict attention to the various duties devolving on him, and by the ability and tact he has displayed in the discharge of those duties, he has succeeded in raising the standard of efficiency of the Corps, and has left his mark on it for good.

His courteous and frank demeanour towards all have endeared him to the members of the Battalion, as well as to a large circle of friends outside its ranks, who now regret his departure, and earnestly hope for his success and happiness in future."

Before leaving the district to return to his regi-

ment Major Papillon was entertained to dinner at Peterhead by his old brother-officers of the Buchan Battalion.

On 11th August, 1882, it was intimated that Capt. and Hon Major R. Scott, commanding F Company, and Captain James Ferguson, commanding D Company, had received "Special Mention" for Examination in Tactics.

In February, 1883, the headquarters of H Company were transferred from New Pitsligo to Fraserburgh, the substantial result being the breaking up of the Pitsligo Company, and the formation of a second Company at Fraserburgh. An additional Company (K) was also formed at Boddam, new drill stations at Sandhaven and Boddam being sanctioned. In the same year authority was applied for and obtained for the adoption of trews of the Gordon tartan, and for the gradual adoption of the Glengarry diced forage cap of the Gordon Highlanders pattern, and for one man per Company adopting the Gordon tartan kilt to act as regimental pipers. On 18th February General the Hon. Sir Alexander Hamilton Gordon, K.C.B., was gazetted Honorary Colonel. A regimental camp was again held at Shevado, and the Commanding Officer was again able to express "his great satisfaction at the highly creditable manner in which everything connected with the Camp and Inspection was conducted. The discipline in camp and the good order prevailing was excellent and a decided improvement on former years." The Commanding Officer was also able to "congratulate the Regiment on having won the Battalion Cup, and on the general good shooting of individual members at the Wapinschaw in Aberdeen." In September, Roseheartly was constituted a drill station.

On 17th January, 1884, it was intimated from the

War Office that Her Majesty the Queen had been graciously pleased to approve of the designation of the Regiment being changed to *The 3rd (The Buchan) Volunteer Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders*.

In notifying the resignation of Captain Andrew Tarras on 6th May, the Commanding Officer made the following remarks:—"From the first start of his Company (G) in Fraserburgh up to the present time, Captain Tarras has been an energetic and zealous officer, keeping up the efficiency and steadily increasing the numbers of his men, the latter especially being always a most valuable feature in a Volunteer officer's duty." The following order was issued after the annual inspection:—

"Colonel Cluny Macpherson, C.B., 42nd Regimental Volunteer District, the inspecting officer, has directed the Commanding Officer to make known to the Battalion that he was much pleased with his inspection on the 18th instant. He remarked on the appearance, steadiness, and smartness of the men under arms. That the marching in quick and double time was all that could be desired, that at drill afterwards the men handled their arms and marched with freedom, that the different movements were gone through with accuracy and attention, and that the officers appeared to be well acquainted with their drill. Also that the officers called out for drill acquitted themselves creditably—that the arrangements for bringing the men on the ground and supplying refreshments seemed excellent, and that he would have much pleasure in reporting favourably on the State of the Regiment to H.R.H. the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief."

In the following August the regiment turned out well and took part in the parade at the presentation of colours by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the 3rd

Battalion Gordon Highlanders at Aberdeen, subsequent to which a District Order containing the following observations was issued :—

“The Prince of Wales desires his approval to be expressed of all the Troops present, and the appreciation of His Royal Highness at the admirable spirit which produced so creditable a muster of the Volunteer forces, and so excellent a military display, together with the maintenance of perfect discipline under circumstances of exceptionally bad weather and extreme discomfort.” The officer commanding the Regimental District thanked the Buchan Battalion for “mustering in such strong force,” and expressed his pleasure “with the manner in which they turned out, and with their steadiness under such trying circumstances, and also with their excellent behaviour before assembly and after dismissal.” The establishment of the regiment was in 1884 increased from 9 to 10 Companies.

On 20th January, 1885, the Commanding Officer in announcing the death at Longside, of Acting Chaplain Low, observed :—“For 13 years this officer officiated as Chaplain to F Company, taking the warmest interest in all that concerned it.” On 17th March authority was obtained for “the gradual change of uniform from green tunics to Highland scarlet doublet of same pattern as worn by the 3rd Battalion Gordon Highlanders,” a change which was completed more rapidly than would otherwise have been possible by arrangements made by the Captains of Companies with the approval of the Commanding Officer. At the inspection of 1885 half the regiment appeared in scarlet. In the same year the Battalion was armed with the Martini-Henry rifle.

On 2nd March, 1886, in notifying the retirement of Lieut. James Beaton, A Company, it was observed :

"He has rendered good service to the Corps from the commencement of the Volunteer Movement and has won for himself the esteem and regard of his comrades and the approbation of his superior officers."

In 1886 the regiment mustered 809 strong on the inspection parade, and on 18th August the Regimental Orders, in announcing the death of the Rev. James Peter, minister of Old Deer, contained this reference to his services :—

"The late Chaplain, the Rev. James Peter, for a long period of years took the keenest interest in the Volunteer Force and made special efforts to increase the numbers and maintain the *esprit-de-corps* of the Old Deer Company. The death of this officer entails a direct loss to the Regiment as well as a severe one to his Company."

In December of that year the following "progress report" upon the past five years was published in orders :—

	Proficients.	Efficients.	Non-Efficients.	Total enrolled strength.	Capitation Grants.	
1882. ... 55	536	67	603	£1102 10 0		0
1883. ... 56	742	14	756	1691 10 0		0*
1884. ... 85	778	29	807	1673 0 0		0
1885. ... 85	911	8	919	1790 10 0		0
1886. ... 84	956	8	956	1859 15 0		

*(Including Camp Allowances).

On 29th March, 1887, the strength of the Battalion was 1003. Captain Adam Arbuthnot's retirement from the regiment was thus notified on 26th April, 1887 :—

"Captain Adam Arbuthnot's retirement from the Regiment is to be regretted, as during that officer's services with the members of the Regiment at Peterhead and Boddam he did much by his popularity *esprit-de-corps*, and liberality to increase the numbers and efficiency of the members of the different Companies that came under his command."

On 23rd May, 1887, Major P. F. Robertson's term

of service as Adjutant expired. In notifying his leaving the Battalion the Commanding Officer observed :

“ During the five year's tenure of this appointment, with the hearty co-operation of all ranks in the Regiment, he has been able to carry out many improvements in the interior economy of the Battalion, and increase its strength in a remarkable manner. This is mainly owing to the tact, and knowledge of his work which Major Robertson has displayed, and to the spirit of enthusiasm which he has thrown into it.”

Major Robertson was succeeded by Captain H. C. Barton Gray, 2nd Battalion the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. In 1887 steps were first taken to form a detachment of cyclists, and in 1888 a drill station was established at Aberdour, the detachment being attached to C Company (Lonmay). A signalling class was also formed by Captain Gray.

On 29th June, 1888, the Regimental Orders stated : “ The Commanding Officer has pleasure in making known to the Battalion that the Inspecting Officer, Colonel Green, C.B., expressed himself as highly pleased with the efficient condition of the Battalion at the inspection by Companies concluded yesterday. The Commanding Officer begs to thank the officers and staff generally for the assistance rendered to him in carrying out the duties of the Battalion and aiding him in every way.” The same year the Battalion was detailed as one of those selected to compose the Highland Brigade, which was one of the first Volunteer Brigades formed, and was placed under the command of Viscount Stormont.

In 1889 the Battalion again went into camp, the tents being pitched in a well-situated field on the farm of Nether Aden, between Old Deer and Mintlaw. Upon the breaking up of the camp the following order was issued :—

“The Commanding Officer has great pleasure in communicating to the Regiment the remarks of Col. Green”—now Sir Wm. Green, K.C.B.—“who this day inspected the Battalion: ‘I am greatly pleased with everything I have seen at my inspection. The Battalion turned out very smart, and drilled remarkably well. I see a marked improvement throughout the Battalion during the past three years. All arrangements connected with the camp have been without exception most satisfactory and the conduct of all ranks exceptionally good.’ The Commanding Officer begs to thank all, especially the Adjutant, Quarter-Master, and staff of Instructors for the zealous and effective aid rendered by them in the conduct of the camp; and congratulates the Battalion on the excellent report of the Inspecting Officer.”

In 1890 Major Shepherd was appointed Musketry Instructor, Captain Jack and Second-Lieut. Lumsden attended a course at Hythe and received Musketry Certificates, and the Major-General remarked upon the annual musketry return of the Battalion as “very satisfactory.” In the latter part of the year the composition of the Volunteer Infantry Brigades was re-arranged, and the Battalion was assigned, along with the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Volunteer Battalions of the Gordon Highlanders, to form the Aberdeen Brigade.

In April, 1891, Lieut. Lumsden succeeded Major Shepherd as Musketry Instructor. A second camp was pitched that year at Nether Aden, and the Battalion was supplied with the full equipment. The Regimental Orders of 20th June contained the following statement :—

“Colonel Green, C.B., commanding 75th Regimental District, has requested the Commanding Officer to express to the Battalion his entire satis-

faction at the result of his inspection of the regiment in camp at Nether Aden on Wednesday, the 10th inst.

He was very much pleased with the appearance and regularity of the camp and the various arrangements in connection with it, as well as with the Battalion drill under the various officers called out.

He has had much pleasure in noting each year a marked improvement in every way in the general efficiency of the regiment.

He also desired the Commanding Officer to make known to the Battalion his high sense of the able and successful manner in which Captain and Adjutant Gray had carried out the duties of his appointment in every department."

The Battalion stood 13th in the order of merit in the record of the Musketry Training of Rifle Volunteer Corps for the year 1890, which was published on 1st June, 1891.

In March, 1892, a cyclist section was formed, and in April seven members obtained army ambulance certificates, and were appointed regimental stretcher bearers, along with nine others who had obtained similar certificates in July 1890.

In May of the same year Colonel the Earl of Erroll, commanding the Royal Horse Guards, was appointed Honorary Colonel of the Battalion in succession to General Sir Alexander Gordon, deceased.

In June the Battalion went under canvas at Dyce, along with the 1st (Aberdeen City), the 2nd (the Formartine District), and the 4th (the Donside) Battalions of the Gordon Highlanders, the Brigade being under the command of Brigadier-General F. S. Russell of Aden, C.M.G., formerly Colonel of the 1st Royal Dragoons. Associated and compared for the first time with other troops under canvas, it proved itself

equal to the occasion, judged by any of the three tests which are afforded by—

- (1) The soldierly manner in which the camp was pitched and kept.
- (2) The discipline and conduct of the men.
- (3) The steadiness, alacrity of movement, and familiarity with the latest changes at drill.

The following order was published on 22nd June :—
“The General Officer Commanding in Scotland having this day inspected the Brigade camp at Dyce has expressed to officers commanding Battalions his entire satisfaction with the orderliness and cleanliness of the camp and all the internal arrangements connected therewith,” and subsequently a Brigade Order by Brigadier-General Russell, C.M.G., conveyed to the troops under his command the observations of the Commander-in-Chief:—“His Royal Highness is satisfied with the report on the appearance of the men of the Aberdeen Volunteer Infantry Brigade. The camping arrangements appear to have been good. Brigadier-General Russell deserves credit for his good arrangements, but His Royal Highness regrets that more men of the Brigade did not go into camp.”

In 1892 the Battalion stood 16th in order of merit in musketry in the United Kingdom.

In the close of 1892 Major Gray's term of service as Adjutant expired. In Battalion Orders of 21st November, the Commanding Officer observed :—

“The Commanding Officer, on behalf of the Battalion, desires to express great regret at losing the services of Major Gray as Adjutant at the termination of the annual period of service as such. Thoroughly conversant with all the details of his work, and performing his various duties with zeal and energy, and at the same time with rare tact and firmness, Major Gray has won the high approval of the authorities,

and the respect and esteem of all ranks in the Battalion. They heartily wish him every success in his future career."

After Major Gray left there was forwarded to him by the Commanding Officer a silver salver and tea service in a case lined with Gordon tartan silk, sent by his former brother officers as a memorial of his connection with the Buchan Volunteers.

Major Gray was succeeded as Adjutant by Captain Henry Herbert Nicholson, of the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

The *Gazette* of 22nd November, 1892, announced that Her Majesty had been pleased to confer the Volunteer Officer's Decoration upon the following officers of the Battalion :—

Major and Hon. Lt.-Col....	...	R. Scott
Major and Hon. Lt.-Col....	...	R. Robertson
Captain and Hon. Major...	...	J. Stewart
Captain and Hon. Major...	...	J. Simpson
Captain and Hon. Major...	...	A. Hay
Lieutenant	...	J. C. Rennie
Quarter-Master and Hon. Capt....	...	J. Walker

To these were subsequently added :—

Major and Hon. Lt.-Col....	...	J. Shepherd
Major and Hon. Lt.-Col....	...	J. Keith (ret.)
Captain and Hon. Major...	...	W. Barron (ret.)
Surgeon-Major	...	Robert M. Wilson
Surgeon-Major	...	A. Mitchell
Surgeon-Major	...	N. Lawrence
Acting Chaplain	...	Rev. W. Webster
Acting Chaplain	...	Rev. J. Stewart
Acting Chaplain	...	Rev. J. Mitchell (ret.)

In 1893, a Regimental Camp was again formed at Nether Aden, upon the termination of which Colonel Fordyce issued the following order :—

"The Commanding Officer wishes to congratulate the Battalion on the success of the Regimental Camp just closed.

In spite of the most adverse circumstances as regards weather, which prevented the usual drills

being carried out, officers and men made an excellent appearance at inspection, which met with the approval of the Inspecting Officer. The smart and soldier-like manner in which the camp was put up under the superintendence of the Adjutant and staff in the midst of pouring rain on the 23rd inst., and the prompt way in which the Battalion mustered after the inspection drill in marching order in obedience to an unexpected summons by the Inspecting Officer, reflect great credit on all ranks, and point to a good system of discipline in force throughout the Battalion."

At the close of 1893 Sergt.-Major Darling received his discharge, and the Battalion Orders of 9th January, 1894, contained the following reference to his long connection and efficient service with the Battalion:—

"The Commanding Officer desires to put on record his high sense of the long and meritorious service of almost 42 years in Army and Auxiliary Forces of Sergt.-Major Stephen Darling, who received his discharge on 17th ultimo.

Enlisting in the Coldstream Guards in January, 1852, he served with distinction in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-5, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman and the subsequent siege and fall of Sebastopol.

Retiring from the army in July, 1862, he was appointed a Sergt.-Instructor to this Battalion upon the 1st August the same year. On the 1st March, 1871, he was appointed Sergt.-Major, which appointment he has held continuously for a period of 22 years and 289 days.

Under various Commanding Officers and Adjutants he discharged with zeal and ability the various duties attaching to the honourable position he held, and now retires with the hearty good wishes of all the officers

and members who have served and are now serving with the Battalion."

In 1877 Major Blair publicly mentioned that "Sergt.-Major Darling had, as senior non-commissioned officer, led his Company out of action at Inkerman when every officer was shot down."

At 31st October, 1893, the strength of the Battalion was 671, of whom 655 were efficient, 653 earning the higher grant. 28 officers and 54 Sergeants were proficient, and two officers had passed in tactics. Out of the 45 Battalions exercised in the Scottish District, the Buchan Battalion stood seventh in order of merit, having been eleventh in 1891, and ninth in 1892.

It is a matter of credit to the staff—especially Captain Walker, who has for many years acted as Quarter-Master—and of satisfaction to all ranks, that, in spite of a practically compulsory and expensive change of uniform, consequent upon the Volunteer Regiments being more closely united with their territorial line Battalions, and an entirely new equipment to suit the new uniform having to be provided, the debt of the Battalion, which ten years ago was nearly £1000, has been reduced, at the date when these lines are penned (April 1894), to under £300.

It may be interesting to add the following particulars as to "The Officer's Cup" and other Regimental and Company trophies:—

THE OFFICERS' CUP.

On the occasion of a competition for Battalion prizes at Peterhead on 8th November, 1862, and a dinner given by Colonel Russell to the officers and secretaries of the various Corps forming the Administrative Battalion, it was resolved to provide a challenge cup to be competed for annually by the officers and

original secretaries of the associated Corps. This was done by subscription among the officers.

This cup has been won as follows :—

1863.	...	Lieut. A. Walker (Peterhead)
1864.	...	Col. and Adjutant Mayne
1865.	...	Capt. Bremner (Peterhead)
1866.	...	Capt. W. Dingwall Fordyce (New Deer)
1867.	...	Lieut. A. Walker (Peterhead)
1868.	...	Ensign W. Boyd (Old Deer)
1869.	...	Ensign W. Boyd (Old Deer)
1870.	...	Capt. Dingwall Fordyce (New Deer)
1871.	...	Ensign J. Simpson (New Deer)
1872.	...	Ensign J. Simpson (New Deer)
1873.	...	Ensign J. Simpson (New Deer)
1874.	...	Lieut. J. Simpson (Peterhead)
1875.	...	Ensign J. Simpson (New Deer)
1876.	...	Sub-Lieut. Stephen (Peterhead)
1877.	...	Capt. and Adjutant Papillon
1878.	...	Lieut. J. Simpson (Peterhead)
1879.	...	Lieut. J. Beaton (New Deer)
1880.	...	Lieut. J. Beaton (New Deer)
1881.	...	Lieut. Al. Hay (Peterhead)
1882.	...	Lieut. Al. Hay (Peterhead)
1883.	...	Lieut. W. Davidson (Cruden)
1884.	...	Lieut. J. J. Smith (Peterhead)
1885.	...	Act.-Surg. R. M. Wilson (Old Deer)
1886.	...	Lieut. J. Simpson (Peterhead)
1887.	...	Lieut. J. Simpson (Peterhead)
1888.	...	Lieut. Geo. S. Traill (Strichen)
1889.	...	Capt. J. Jack (Lonmay)
1890.	...	Lieut. J. C. Rennie (Old Deer)
1891.	...	Capt. J. Jack (Lonmay)
1892.	...	Lieut. J. C. Rennie (Old Deer)
1893.	...	Lieut. J. C. Rennie (Old Deer)

OTHER PRINCIPAL REGIMENTAL PRIZES.

The Silver Bugle.—This was originally presented by a number of ladies in Buchan, and was treated as a challenge trophy given annually for excellence in attention to drill. On the presentation by Colonel Fordyce of his cup in 1883, the Silver Bugle was for some years given as a prize for bugling, but latterly it has again been given for drill attendances.

The Aden Cup was originally given in 1869, with £5, by Lieut.-Col. James Russell of Aden, as an indi-

vidual shooting prize for the Battalion. On his death, his son, Mr James George Ferguson Russell of Aden continued the money prizes which his father had been in the habit of giving along with the cup.

The Commanding Officer's Cup.—This was originally given by Colonel Dingwall Fordyce in 1883, and was intimated as a drill prize. It was, however, treated as a shooting trophy the first year, and after being given for drill for some years afterwards, has latterly been treated as a shooting prize, competed for by squads representing the various Companies.

The Adjutant's Cup or Prize.—Major Blair gave a cup for shooting; Captain Papillon during his tenure of the Adjutancy also gave a cup, as did his successor, Major Robertson. Captain Gray gave a money prize.

Colonel John Ferguson's Cup.—In 1879 Colonel Ferguson gave a cup for skirmishing practice.

The Kinmundy Prizes.—In 1884 and 1885 Mr Ferguson of Kinmundy gave money prizes to be competed for as a Battalion competition.

Mrs Dingwall Fordyce of Brucklay's Cup.—In 1888 Mrs Fordyce presented a cup as a trophy to be competed for in a Tug of War competition, and in 1891 with her consent the conditions were changed, and it was converted into a shooting trophy.

Pipers' Prize, 1884.—In 1884, Captain Ferguson gave a prize (skean-dhu) for the best piper in the Battalion.

SPECIAL COMPANY PRIZES.

Several of the Companies have special challenge cups and trophies. Among these are:—

The Pitfour Cup, given originally by Admiral Ferguson, and subsequently replaced by Col. George C. Ferguson of Pitfour after it had been won for the requisite number of times in succession, which is

competed for in the Old Deer Company, other Volunteers resident on the Pitfour estates being also entitled to compete.

Lord Saltoun's Cup, open to the two Fraserburgh Companies and the Artillery Battery at Fraserburgh.

The cup given by the *Merchant Maiden Company*, and annually competed for by the Peterhead Companies.

In view of the many difficulties with which the scattered Companies of country Volunteer Battalions have to contend, the Buchan Battalion may look with some satisfaction upon the steady progress which its annals record, and which has been observed upon by successive Inspecting Officers. It has owed much to a succession of energetic and active Adjutants, and it may be hoped that the spirit and patriotism which so successfully started and have since sustained the Volunteer force in the district will long maintain and farther increase the credit of a Battalion which has in 34 years acquired a character of its own, and now wears a uniform at once distinctive of the north-eastern counties and associated with a military reputation second to none.

A P P E N D I X I.

(Compiled from the War Office Lists by Capt. P. Davidson, 5th V.B.G.H., and revised by Capt. and Hon. Major HAY, 3rd V.B.G.H.)

3rd ADMINISTRATIVE BATTALION ABERDEENSHIRE RIFLE VOLUNTEERS.

1860-80.

DETAILS OF THE SEVERAL CORPS FORMING THE ADMINISTRATIVE BATTALION.

COUNTY No.	HEADQUARTERS.	FIRST APPEARED IN ARMY LIST.	REMARKS.
5th	New Deer ...	April, 1860	Numbered 17th until August, 1860. Establishment, Two Companies. Numbered 21st until Aug., 1860. Establishment, Two Companies.
9th	Peterhead ...	April, 1860	
17th	Old Deer ...	October, 1860	
20th	Longside ...	September, 1861	
24th	St Fergus ...	October, 1867	
25th	New Pitsligo ...	May, 1868	Transferred to Fraserburgh, September, 1875.
26th	Cruden ...	September, 1872	

STAFF AND FIELD OFFICERS.

	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
LIEUT.-COLS.		
James Russell	2 June, 1862	Died—See 17th A.R.V.
John Ferguson	30 Dec., 1876	Died—See 17th A.R.V.
MAJORS.		
William Alexander	3 July, 1867	Retired—See 9th A.R.V.
John Ferguson	28 August, 1872	Lieut.-Col., 30th December, 1876.
James B. Blair	18 April, 1877	Retired, 18th April, 1880.
James Shepherd	18 April, 1877	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
ADJUTANTS.		
William Mayne	6 March, 1862	Late Adjutant, Queen's Westminster Vols. Major and Bt. Lieut. Col., h.p. Retired—Late Land Transport Corps.
James B. Blair	29 May, 1867	Late Lieut., 6th Foot. Temp. Capt. in Army, 25th Feby., 1874.
David Papillon	19 May, 1877	Major, 3rd A.R.V. Corps, 18th April, 1877. Capt., 92nd Highlanders, 27th Feby., 1871. Major, do., 1st July, 1881. See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
QUARTER MASTERS.		
William Gamack (<i>Hon.</i>)	1 Feb., 1868.	Retired.
James Mackinnon (<i>Hon. Asst.</i>)	13 April, 1868	Lieut., 12th May, 1869.
John Walker (<i>Hon. Asst.</i>)	19 May, 1871	Quarter Master, 3rd May, 1873. See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
SURGEONS.		
John Anderson	22 Dec., 1868	See 9th A.R.V. Retired.
William A. Gavin (<i>Asst.</i>)	28 July, 1868	Acting Surg., 1st October, 1877. Retired.
Andrew Mitchell	28 Feb., 1879	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Nathaniel Lawrence (<i>Asst.</i>)	26 Feb., 1879	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—5TH ABERDEENSHIRE R. V. CORPS, NEW DEER.

CAPTAINS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
Wm. Dingwall Fordyce ...	30 March, 1861	Died.
Alex. Dingwall Fordyce ...	15 March, 1876	Late Capt. 72nd Highlanders. See S. & F. O. & C. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
LIEUTENANTS.		
Wm. Dingwall Fordyce	12 April, 1860	Captain, 30th March, 1861.
William Johnston	30 March, 1861	Retired.
Thomas Ritchie	16 Feb., 1870	Retired.
John Simpson...	3 May, 1873	Retired.
William Murison	1 June, 1873	Retired. Reappointed, 15 Mar., 1882. See C. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
John Laing ...	9 May, 1874	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
ENSIGNS.		
William Johnston	12 April, 1860	Lieut., 30th March, 1861.
Joseph Murison	30 March, 1861	Retired.
Thomas Ritchie	14 June, 1864	Lieut., 16th Feb., 1870.
John Simpson...	16 Feb., 1870	Lieut., 3rd May, 1873.
William Murison	7 May, 1873	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
SUB-LIEUTENANT.		
John Laing	9 May, 1874	Lieut., Oct., 1876, with seniority from 9th May, 1874.
2ND LIEUTENANT.		
James Beaton...	24 April, 1878	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
SURGEONS.		
James Leslie (<i>Hon. Asst.</i>)	1861	Retired. [<i>supra</i> .]
Andrew Mitchell (<i>Act. Asst.</i>)	10 April, 1873	Act. Surg., 1st Oct., 1877; Surg., 26th Feb., 1879. See S. & F. O.,
P. B. H. Macleod (<i>Act. Surg.</i>)	15 March, 1879	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
CHAPLAINS.		
Rev. John Wallace (<i>Acting</i>)	3 May, 1873	Retired.
Rev. Jacob Linklater (<i>Acting</i>)	15 March, 1873	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
	10 Nov., 1877	

COMPANY OFFICERS—9TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, PETERHEAD.

		DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
CAPTAINS.			
William Alexander	...	4 April, 1860	Capt. Commandant, 4th April, 1860; Major, 3rd July, 1867.
Thos. J. Brenner	...	4 April, 1860	Capt. Commandant, August, 1869. Retired.
Alex. Walker	...	2 July, 1869	Retired.
Wm. Arbuthnot Alexander	...	6 March, 1871	Capt. Commandant, 6th March, 1871. Resigned. Reappointed 20th October, 1875. Retired.
John Mackintosh	...	6 March, 1871	Retired.
Robert Robertson	...	20 Oct., 1875	Capt. Commandant. See Staff and Field Officers and Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
William Stewart	...	14 August, 1878	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
LIEUTENANTS.			
Charles Noble	...	4 April, 1860	Retired.
Thomas Arbuthnot	...	4 April, 1860	Retired.
Alex. Walker	...	16 April, 1861	Capt., 2nd July, 1869.
John Mackintosh	...	9 April, 1868	Capt., 6th March, 1871.
Wm. Arbuthnot Alexander	...	27 July, 1869	Capt., 6th March, 1871.
Alex. H. Yule	...	17 March, 1871	Retired.
William Baxter	...	17 March, 1871	Retired.
William Stewart	...	1 June, 1873	Capt., 14th August, 1878.
John Simpson	...	1 June, 1873	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Robert Robertson	...	5 April, 1871	Transferred from 24th A.R.V., Sept., 1875; Capt., 20th October, 1875.
James Stephen	...	25 Oct., 1875	See Staff and Field Officers and Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
David Martin	...	25 Oct., 1875	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—9TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, PETERHEAD—(Continued).

ENSIGNS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
Alex. Walker...	4 April, 1860	Lieut., 16th April, 1861.
John Mackintosh	4 April, 1860	Lieut., 9th April, 1868.
G. G. Anderson	16 April, 1861	Retired.
Wm. Arbuthnot Alexander	9 April, 1868	Lieut., 27th July, 1869.
Alex. H. Yule	27 July, 1869	Lieut., 17th March, 1871.
William Baxter	16 Feb., 1870	Lieut., 17th March, 1871.
Samuel Arbuthnot	17 March, 1871	Retired.
William Stewart	7 May, 1873	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
John Simpson...	7 May, 1873	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
SUB-LIEUTENANTS.		
James Stephen	25 Oct., 1875	(Lieuts., October, 1877, with seniority from 25th October, 1875.
David Martin...	25 Oct., 1875	
2ND LIEUTENANT.		
Alexander Hay	10 May, 1879	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
SURGEONS.		
John Anderson (<i>Assist.</i>)	4 April, 1860	Surg. (Battalion) 22nd December, 1868.
James Stephen (<i>Act. Assist.</i>)	26 March, 1873	Lieut., 25th October, 1875.
Alex. G. Duncan (<i>Act. Assist.</i>)	25 June, 1873	Transferred from 24th A.R.V. Sept., 1875; Acting Surg., 1st Oct., 1877. Retired.
CHAPLAINS.		
Rev. James Mitchell (<i>Hon.</i>)	16 May, 1860	Retired.
Rev. James Stewart (<i>Hon.</i>)	22 August, 1866	Acting Chaplain, 12th April, 1873. See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Rev. John Mitchell (<i>Acting</i>)	26 March, 1873	Transferred from 24th A.R.V., September, 1875. See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—17TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, OLD DEER.

CAPTAINS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
James Russell	29 Oct., 1860	Capt. Commandant, 29th Oct., 1860. Lieut.-Col., 2nd June, 1862.
John Ferguson	29 Oct., 1860	Major, 28th August, 1872.
William Ferguson	4 Sept., 1867	Retired.
James Keith	20 June, 1874	Capt. Com., 20th June, 1874. See S. & F. O. & C. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
James Chalmers	20 June, 1874	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
LIEUTENANTS.		
David Cruden	29 Oct., 1860	Retired.
John Mackie	29 Oct., 1860	Retired.
James Chalmers	16 March, 1866	Capt., 20th June, 1874.
James Keith	4 Sept., 1867	Capt., 20th June, 1874.
William Boyd	1 June, 1873	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
David Sivewright	1 June, 1873	Died.
James Ferguson	28 July, 1874	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
John Stewart, Jun.	19 August, 1874	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
ENSIGNS.		
James Hall	29 Oct., 1860	Retired.
James Milne	29 Oct., 1860	Retired.
James Keith	14 June, 1864	Lieut., 4th September, 1867.
William Boyd	14 June, 1864	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
David Sivewright	4 Sept., 1867	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
SUB-LIEUTENANTS.		
James Ferguson	28 July, 1874	Lieut., October, 1876. Seniority from 28th July, 1874.
John Stewart, Jun.	19 Aug., 1874	Lieut., October, 1876. Seniority from 19th August, 1874.
SURGEONS.		
James Cooper (<i>Hon. Asst.</i>)	28 Nov., 1861	Retired.
Robert M. Wilson (<i>Act. Asst.</i>)	20 May, 1876	Acting Surg., 1st October, 1877. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
CHAPLAIN.		
Rev. James Peter (<i>Hon. Chapl.</i>)	28 Nov., 1861	Acting Chapl., 26th Mar., 1873. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—20TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, LONGSIDE.

DATE OF APPOINTMENT.		REMARKS.
CAPTAINS.		
William Hutchison	30 July, 1861	Retired 30th December, 1876. See Staff and Field Officers and Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Robert Scott	30 Dec., 1876	
LIEUTENANTS.		
Robert Scott	30 July, 1861	Capt., 30th December, 1876. See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
William Barron	1 June, 1873	
ENSIGNS.		
Alex. Smith	30 July, 1861	Retired. Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
William Barron	28 April, 1871	
SURGEONS.		
N. Lawrence (<i>Hon. Assst.</i>)	30 July, 1861	Retired. Acting Surg., 1st Oct., 1877. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
N. Lawrence, Jun. (<i>Acting Assst.</i>)	12 April, 1873	
CHAPLAIN.	12 April, 1873	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Rev. Alex. Low (<i>Acting</i>)	12 April, 1873	

COMPANY OFFICERS—24TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, ST FERGUS.

LIEUTENANTS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
James Greig ...	23 Dec., 1867	Retired.
James McKinnon ...	12 May, 1869	Retired, 1871.
Robert Robertson ...	5 April, 1871	Capt., 9th A.R.V., 20th October, 1875.
ENSIGNS.		
Alex. Walker ...	23 Dec., 1867	Retired.
James Greig, Jun. ...	12 May, 1869	Retired.
Alex. G. Duncan (<i>Act. Assist.</i>) ...	25 June, 1875	Transferred to 9th A.R.V., September, 1875.
Rev. John Mitchell (<i>Act. Assist.</i>) ...	23 Dec., 1867	Acting Chaplain, 26th March, 1873. Transferred to 9th A.R.V., September, 1875.

This Corps was on September, 1875, amalgamated with the 9th A.R.V., Peterhead, and the number 24th given to a new Corps then raised at Fraserburgh.

COMPANY OFFICERS—24TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, FRASERBURGH.

		DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
CAPTAIN.			
Andrew Tarras	...	13 Nov., 1875	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
LIEUTENANTS.			
Wm. Macconnachie	...	17 Nov., 1875	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
George Walker	...	18 Nov., 1875	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
SUB-LIEUTENANTS.			
George Walker	...	18 Nov., 1875	Promoted Lieuts., October, 1877, with seniority from 18th and 17th November, 1875, respectively.
Wm. Macconnachie	...	{ 1 Dec., 1875	
	...	{ antedated to 17 Nov., 1875	
SURGEON.			
George D. S. Knowles (<i>Acting Assist.</i>)	...	1 Dec., 1875	Acting Surg., 1st Oct., 1877. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—25TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, NEW PITSLIGO.

	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
CAPTAIN.		
C. H. R. Lord Clinton ...	14 April, 1868	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
LIEUTENANTS.		
George Brown ...	14 April, 1868	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
George Matthews ...	1 June, 1873	Retired.
ENSIGN.		
George Matthews ...	14 April, 1868	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
SURGEONS.		
George Thomson (<i>Hon. Asst.</i>) ...	19 May, 1871	Retired.
W. R. S. Jefferies (<i>Act. Asst.</i>) ...	11 Oct., 1876	Acting Surg., 1st Oct., 1877. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
CHAPLAIN.		
Rev. William Webster (<i>Hon. Chapl.</i>) ...	19 May, 1871	Acting Chapl., 26th Mar., 1873. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.

COMPANY OFFICERS—26TH ABERDEENSHIRE R.V. CORPS, CRUDEN.

		DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
CAPTAIN.			
James Shephard	...	25 Sept., 1872	Major, 18th April, 1877.
LIEUTENANTS.			
John Marr	...	9 Oct., 1872	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
Alexander Moir	...	1 June, 1873	See Company Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H.
ENSIGN.			
Alexander Moir	...	9 Oct., 1872	Lieut., 1st June, 1873.
SURGEON.			
George J. Fraser	(Act. Asst.)	26 Oct., 1872	Acting Surg., 1st Oct., 1877. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.
CHAPLAIN.			
Rev. W. L. Low	(Hon.)	26 Oct., 1872	Acting Chapl., 12th April, 1873. See S. and F. O., 3rd V.B.G.H.

A P P E N D I X I I.

(Compiled from the War Office Lists by Capt. P. DAVINSON, 5th V.G.B.H., and revised and supplemented to May, 1894, by Capt. and Hon. Major HAY, 3rd V.B.(G.H.)

3rd (THE BUCHAN) VOLUNTEER BATTALION THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

1880-93.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMPANIES.

LETTER.	STATION.		REMARKS.
A	New Deer	...	Formerly the 5th A.R.V. Corps.
B	Peterhead	...	Formerly No. 1 Company of the 9th A.R.V. Corps.
C	Lonmay	...	Originally No. 2 Company of the 9th A.R.V. Corps. Headquarters transferred from Peterhead to Crimond, April, 1885, and from there to Lonmay, April, 1888.
D	Old Deer	...	Formerly No. 1 Company of the 17th A.R.V. Corps.
E	Strichen	...	Formerly No. 2 Company of the 17th A.R.V. Corps.
F	Longside	...	Formerly the 20th A.R.V. Corps.
G	Fraserburgh	...	Formerly the 24th A.R.V. Corps.
H	Fraserburgh	...	Formerly the 25th A.R.V. Corps. Station transferred from New Pittsligo to Fraserburgh.
I	Cruden	...	Formerly the 26th A.R.V. Corps.
K	Peterhead	...	Formed in 1883. Station at Boddam till April, 1888, when transferred to Peterhead.

STAFF AND FIELD OFFICERS.

HON. COLONELS. Genl. The Hon. Sir A. H. Gordon, K.C.B. The Right Hon. the Earl of Erroll ... LIEUT.-COLONEL Alexander Dingwall Fordyce MAJORS. James Shephard ... James Keith ... Robert Scott ... Robert Robertson ... ADJUTANTS. David Papillon ... P. F. Robertson ... H. C. B. Gray ... H. H. Nicholson ... QUARTER MASTER. John Walker ... SURGEONS. George J. Fraser (<i>Acting</i>) ... Andrew Mitchell ... Nath. Lawrence, Jun. (<i>Asst.</i>) ... G. S. D. Knowles (<i>Acting</i>) ...	DATE OF APPOINTMENT. 14 Feb., 1883 28 May, 1892 24 July, 1880 18 April, 1877 9 Oct., 1880 10 Nov., 1888 28 May, 1892 19 May, 1877 19 May, 1882 19 May, 1887 18 Nov., 1892 3 May, 1873 1 Oct., 1877 26 Feb., 1879 1 Oct., 1877 1 Oct., 1877	REMARKS. Col., Leinster Regiment. Died 1890. Lieut.-Col., Commanding Royal Horse Guards. See 5th A.R.V. Hon. Col., Sept., 1888. Late Capt., 72nd H ^l d ^{rs} . See 26th A.R.V. Sup. and Tran. Officer, Abdn. Defence Brigade. Hon. Lieut.-Col., December, 1892. V.D., 20th Jan., 1893. See 17th A.R.V. Hon. Lieut.-Col., July, 1888. Retired. V.D., 20th January, 1893. See 20th A.R.V. Hon. Lieut.-Col., December, 1888. V.D., 22nd November, 1892. See 9th and 24th A.R.V. Hon. Lieut.-Col., 17th June, 1892. V.D., 22nd November, 1892. See Staff and Field Officers, page ii. Capt., Gordon Hrs., 20th Jan., 1875, Major do., 20th Oct., 1881. Captain, Royal Dubl. Fus., 30th August, 1881. Major, Welsh Regiment, 25th November, 1891. Captain, Royal Fus., 15th December, 1890. See Staff and Field Officers, page ii. Hon. Captain, Oct., 1889. V.D., 22nd November, 1892. See 26th A.R.V. Retired. See Staff and Field Officers, page ii. Surg.-Major, 1st Fely., 1889. V.D., 13th June, 1893. Surg.-Lt.-Col., 23rd Dec., 1893. See Staff and Field Officers, page ii. Surgeon-Captain, 1st Fely., 1889. Surg.-Maj., 10th Sept., 1892. V.D., 13th June, 1893. Surg.-Lt.-Col., 23rd Dec., 1893. See 24th A.R.V. Retired.
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STAFF AND FIELD OFFICERS—(Continued).

SURGEONS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
Robert M. Wilson (<i>Acting</i>)...	1 Oct., 1877	See 17th A.R.V. Surgeon-Captain, 1st February, 1889. Surgeon-Major, 10th September, 1892. V.D., 2nd May, 1893.
W. R. S. Jefferies ...	1 Oct., 1877	See 25th A.R.V. Retired.
P. B. H. Macleod (<i>Acting</i>) ...	3 May, 1879	See 5th A.R.V.
James Stephen ...	17 Jan., 1885	See 9th A.R.V. Surgeon-Captain, 1st February, 1889.
A. Blackhall (<i>Acting</i>) ...	13 May, 1885	Surgeon-Captain, 1st February, 1889.
A. Gray Duguid (<i>Acting</i>) ...	25 June, 1885	2nd Lieutenant, 28th May, 1887.
A. F. Trail (<i>Acting</i>)...	2 March, 1886	
D. Carmichael (<i>Acting</i>) ...	7 May, 1887	Retired, November, 1893.
CHAPLAINS.		
Rev. John Mitchell ...	26 March, 1873	See 24th A.R.V. Retired. V.D., 21st July, 1893.
Rev. James Peter ...	26 March, 1873	See 17th A.R.V. Died.
Rev. James Stewart ...	12 April, 1873	See 9th A.R.V. V.D., 13th June, 1893.
Very Rev. William Webster	26 March, 1873	See 25th A.R.V. V.D., 13th June, 1893.
Rev. W. L. Low ...	12 April, 1873	See 26th A.R.V. Retired.
Rev. Alexander Low ...	12 April, 1873	See 26th A.R.V. Died.
Rev. Jacob Linklater	10 Nov., 1877	See 5th A.R.V. Retired.
Rev. Robert Cushny ...	6 June, 1885	
Rev. G. B. Walker ...	22 July, 1885	
Rev. W. Paterson ...	21 Nov., 1885	Retired.
Rev. C. Stewart ...	5 June, 1886	Retired.
Rev. M. Morgan ...	18 Sept., 1886	Retired.
Rev. G. A. Johnston	9 July, 1888	
Rev. R. Goodwillie ...	3 April, 1889	
Rev. W. Beveridge ...	13 July, 1889	
Rev. J. Forrest ...	13 July, 1889	
Rev. J. K. Bruce ...	18 June, 1890	Retired, 1891.
Rev. H. Fyfe ...	25 March, 1891	

COMPANY OFFICERS.

CAPTAINS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	REMARKS.
C. H. R. Lord Clinton	1868	See 25th A.R.V. Retired.
James Keith	14 April, 1874	See 17th A.R.V. Major, 9th October, 1880.
James Chalmers	20 June, 1874	See 17th A.R.V. Retired.
Robert Robertson	20 June, 1875	See 24th A.R.V. Major, 28th May, 1892.
Andrew Tarras	20 Oct., 1875	See 9th and 24th A.R.V. Retired
Alex. Dingwall Fontlyce	13 Nov., 1875	See 24th A.R.V. Retired
Robert Scott	15 March, 1876	See 3th A.R.V. Lieut.-Col., 24th July, 1880.
William Stewart	30 Dec., 1876	See 26th A.R.V. Major, 10th November, 1888.
Robert Scott	14 Aug., 1878	See 9th A.R.V. Retired.
James Ferguson	9 Oct., 1880	Hon. Major, September, 1889.
George Brown	14 Dec., 1881	Retired.
John Stewart, Jun.	13 May, 1882	Hon. Major, Jan., 1892. V.D., 22nd Nov., 1892. Retired.
William Macconnachie	10 March, 1883	Hon. Major, December, 1891.
Adam Arbuthnot	23 May, 1883	Retired.
John E. Park	17 May, 1884	Hon. Major, May, 1889. Retired. V.D., 20th January, 1893.
William Barron	20 Dec., 1884	Retired.
Robert Gray	27 May, 1885	Retired.
John J. Smith	12 Feb., 1887	Retired.
John Jack	2 June, 1888	
A. Gray Duguid	3 Nov., 1888	
W. E. Hutchison	20 May, 1891	
John Simpson	23 May, 1891	Hon. Major, December, 1891. V.D., 22nd November, 1892.
Alexander Hay	28 May, 1892	Hon. Major, 17th June, 1892. V.D., 22nd November, 1892.
G. S. Trail	9 Dec., 1893	
LIEUTENANTS.		
George Brown	1868	See 25th A.R.V. Captain, 14th December, 1881.
John Marr	9 Oct., 1872	See 26th A.R.V. Retired.

COMPANY OFFICERS—(Continued).

LIEUTENANTS.	DATE OF		REMARKS.
	APPOINTMENT.		
William Boyd...	1 June, 1873	See 17th A.R.V.	Retired.
William Barron	1 June, 1873	See 20th A.R.V.	Captain, 20th December, 1884.
Alexander Moir	1 June, 1873	See 26th A.R.V.	Retired.
John Simpson...	1 June, 1873	See 9th A.R.V.	Captain, 23rd May, 1891.
John Laing	9 May, 1874	See 5th A.R.V.	Retired.
James Ferguson	20 July, 1874	See 17th A.R.V.	Captain, 9th October, 1880.
John Stewart, Jun.	19 August, 1874	See 17th A.R.V.	Captain, 13th May, 1892.
James Stephen	27 Oct., 1875	See 9th A.R.V.	Surgeon, 17th June, 1885.
David Martin...	27 Oct., 1875	See 9th A.R.V.	Retired.
William Macconnachie	17 Nov., 1875	See 24th A.R.V.	Captain, 10th March, 1883.
George Walker	18 Nov., 1875	See 24th A.R.V.	Retired.
James Beaton...	1 July, 1881	Retired.	
Alexander Hay	1 July, 1881	Captain, 28th May, 1892.	
William Davidson	1 July, 1881	Retired.	
James C. Rennie	1 July, 1881	V.D., 22nd November, 1892.	
David Macdonald	31 August, 1881	Retired.	
Leo. Parsey	15 March, 1882	Retired.	
Wm. Murison...	15 March, 1882	Formerly Lieut., 5th A.R.V.	Retired.
G. S. Trail	15 July, 1882	Captain, 9th December, 1893.	
A. H. Duncan	25 Nov., 1882	Retired.	
John E. Park...	7 March, 1883	Captain, 17th May, 1884.	
James F. Carino	2 May, 1883		
John J. Smith	27 June, 1883	Captain, 12th February, 1887.	
J. L. Crawford	7 July, 1883	Retired.	
John Jack	3 Nov., 1883	Captain, 2nd June, 1888.	

COMPANY OFFICERS—(Continued).

LIEUTENANTS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.		REMARKS.
R. Mirrlees ...	17 Nov., 1883	Retired.	
Wm. Annand ...	24 Nov., 1883	Retired.	
James Leslie ...	5 July, 1884	Retired.	
T. Ruxton ...	10 Jan., 1885	Retired.	
A. Wilson ...	27 Feb., 1886	Retired.	
M. J. M. Tindall	8 May, 1886		
Wm. Thomson	22 March, 1890		
J. Lumsden ...	23 May, 1891		
J. A. B. Forbes	23 May, 1891		
W. A. Smith ...	18 June, 1892		
G. Robertson ...	18 June, 1892		
2ND LIEUTENANTS.			
James Beaton ...	14 April, 1878	See 5th A.R.V. Lieut., 1st July, 1881.	
Alexander Hay	10 May, 1879	See 9th A.R.V. Lieut., 1st July, 1881.	
Wm. Davidson	22 Dec., 1880	Lieut., 1st July, 1881.	
James C. Rennie	8 June, 1881	Lieut., 1st July, 1881.	
Wm. Thomson	27 April, 1887	Lieut., 22nd March, 1890.	
A. Gray Duguid	28 May, 1887	See Staff and Field Officers, 3rd V.B.G.H. Capt., 3rd Nov., 1888.	
J. Lumsden ..	3 April, 1889	Lieut., 23rd May, 1891.	
J. A. B. Forbes	22 June, 1889	Lieut., 23rd May, 1891.	
W. E. Hutchison	5 Oct., 1889	Captain, 20th May, 1891.	
W. A. Smith ...	29 March, 1890	Lieut., 18th June, 1892.	
G. Robertson ...	26 July, 1890	Lieut., 18th June, 1892.	
R. R. Ballingal	4 May, 1892		
C. W. Bruce ..	25 June, 1892		
John Stuart ...	17 Sept., 1892		
A. Robertson ...	27 Jan., 1894		

APPENDIX III.

OFFICERS OF 3rd V.B.G.H., 1894.

(Extracted from the Army List, May, 1894.)

THE GORDON HIGHLANDERS.

REGIMENTAL DISTRICT No. 75.—ABERDEEN.

3RD (THE BUCHAN) VOLUNTEER BATTALION (LATE
3RD ABERDEENSHIRE)—*Peterhead.*

HON. COLONEL.

Ertoll, C. G., Earl of, *Lt.-Col., R.H.G.* ... 28 May, 1892

LIEUT.-COLONEL.

Fordyce, A. D., *hon. c., p.s.* ... 24 July, 1880

MAJORS.

vdShepherd, J., *hon. l.-c., p. (H.)* ... 18 April, 1877vdScott, R., *hon. l.-c. p., (T.)* ... 10 Nov., 1888vdRobertson, R., *hon. l.-c., p.* ... 28 May, 1892

CAPTAINS (10).

Ferguson, J., *hon. m., p. (T.)* ... 9 Oct., 1880M'Connachie, W., *hon. m., p.* ... 10 Mar., 1883Park, J. E., *p.* ... 17 May, 1884Jack, J., *p. (H.)* ... 2 June, 1888Gray Duguid, A., *p.* ... 3 Nov., 1888vdSimpson, J., *hon. m., p.* ... 23 May, 1891Hutchison, W. E., *p.* ... 23 May, 1891vdHay, A., *hon. m., p.* ... 28 May, 1892

Trail, G. S. ... 9 Dec., 1893

LIEUTENANTS AND 2ND LIEUTENANTS (15).

LIEUTENANTS.

vdRennie, J. C., *p.* ... 1 July, 1881Cardno, J. F. (*p.*) ... 2 May, 1883Tindall, M. J. M., *p.* ... 8 May, 1886Thomson, W., *p.* ... 22 Mar., 1890Lumsden, J., *p. (H.), I. of M.* ... 23 May, 1891Forbes, J. A. B., *p.* ... 23 May, 1891Smith, W. A., *p.* ... 18 June, 1892Robertson, G. (*p.*) ... 18 June, 1892

2ND LIEUTENANTS.

Ballingal, R. R., *p.* ... 4 May, 1892

Bruce, C. W. ... 25 June, 1892

Stuart, J., *p.* ... 17 Sept., 1892

Robertson, A. ... 27 Jan., 1894

OFFICERS OF 3RD V.B.G.H., 1894—(Continued).

INSTRUCTOR OF MUSKETRY.

Lumsden, J., *lt.* 25 April, 1891

ADJUTANT.

Nicholson, H. H., Capt. R. Fus. 18 Nov., 1892
 (*Captain in the Army* 15 Dec., 1890)

QUARTER-MASTER.

VD Walker, J., *hon. capt., p.* 3 May, 1873

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

VD Mitchell, A., *Surg.-Lt.-Col., p.* 23 Dec., 1893
 VD Lawrence, N., jun., *Surg.-Lt.-Col., p.* 23 Dec., 1893
 VD Wilson, R. M., *Surg.-Maj., p.* 10 Sept., 1892
 Stephen, J., *M.D., Surg.-Capt., p.* 1 Feb., 1889
 Blackhall, A., *M.D., Surg.-Capt., p.* 1 Feb., 1889
 Macleod, P. B. H., *M.B., Surg.-Lt.* 3 May, 1879
 Trail, A. F., *M.B., Surg.-Lt.* 24 Mar., 1886

ACTING CHAPLAINS.

VD Webster, Rev. W. 26 Mar., 1873
 VD Stewart, Rev. J. 12 April, 1873
 Cushny, Rev. R. 6 June, 1885
 Walker, Rev. G. B. 22 July, 1885
 Goodwillie, Rev. R. 3 April, 1889
 Beveridge, Rev. W. 13 July, 1889
 Forrest, Rev. J. 13 July, 1889
 Fyfe, Rev. H. 25 Mar., 1891

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